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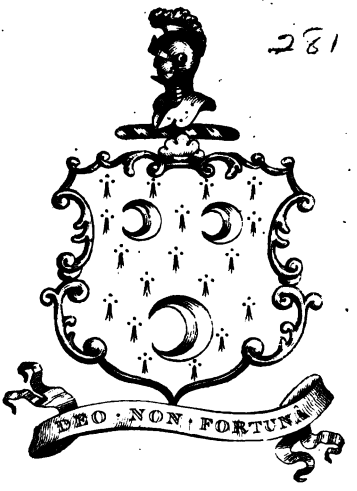

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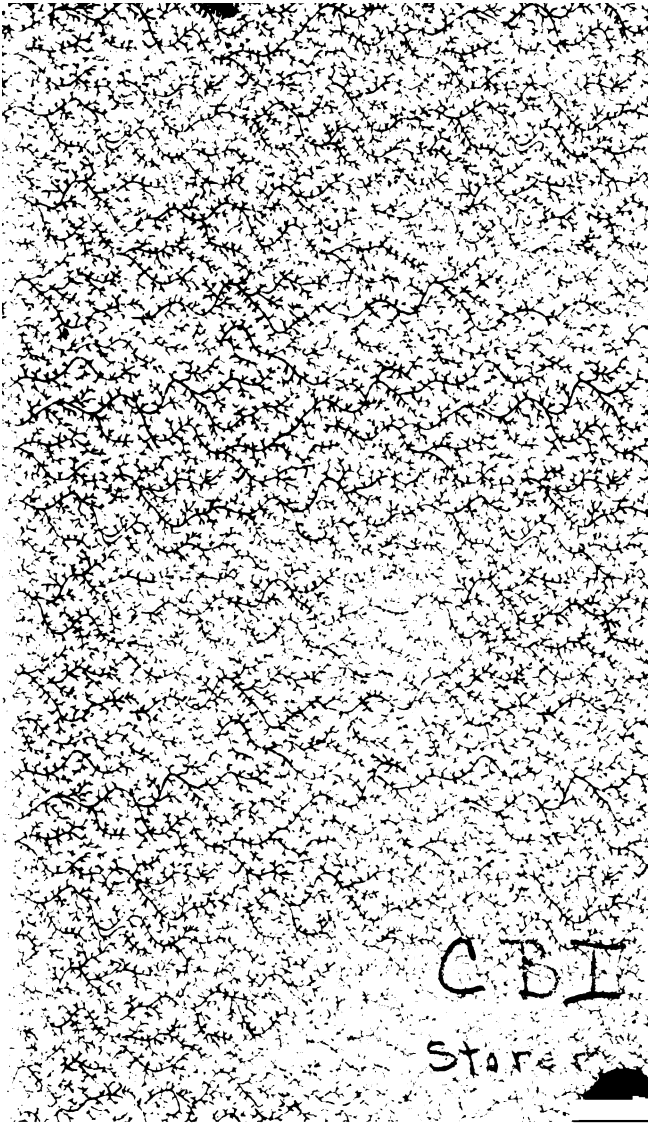
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ELEGANT VIEWS

OF THE

MOST INTERESTING OBJECTS OF CURIOSITY

IN

Great Britain.

Accompanied with

LETTER-PRESS DESCRIPTIONS.

VOL. IV.

J. S. Storer

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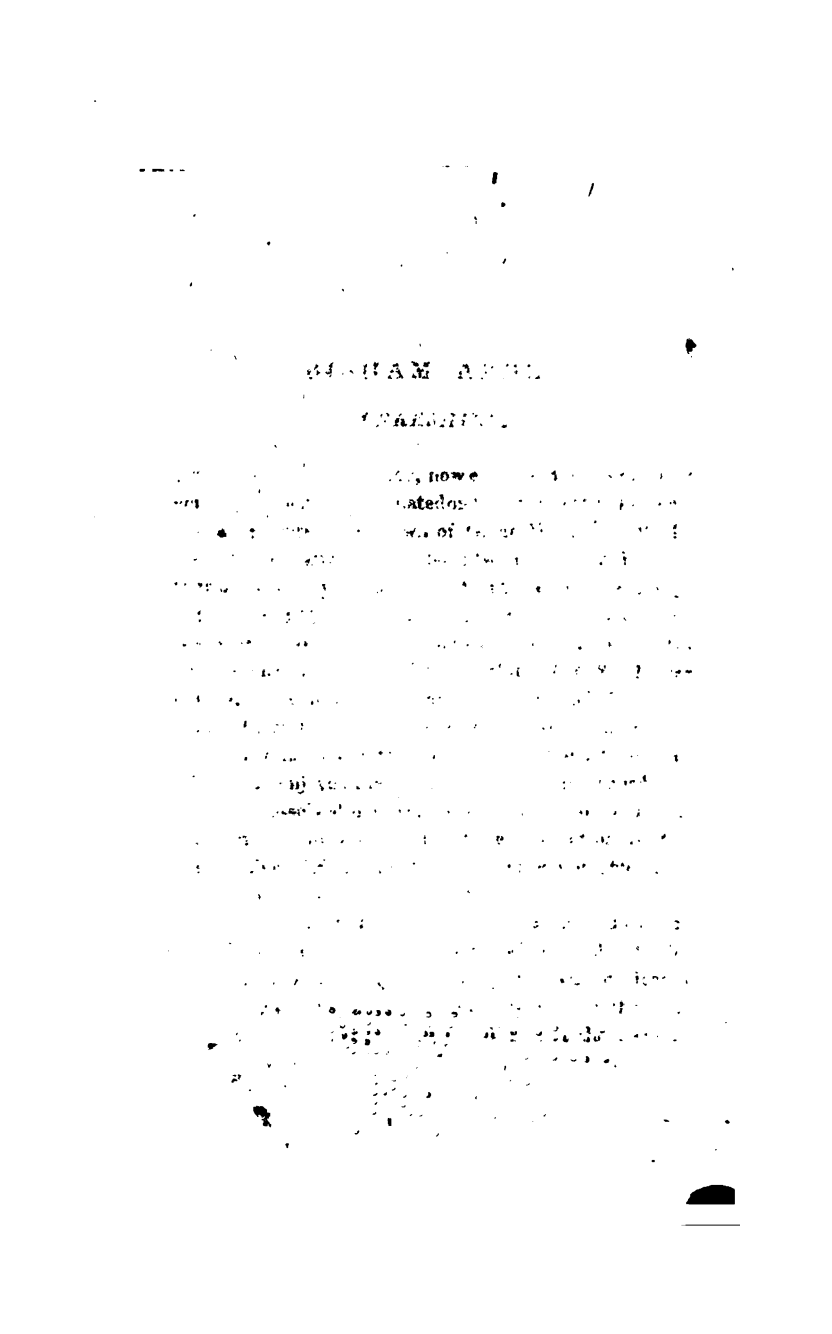
Bisham Abbey Berks.



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BISHAM ABBEY,

BERKSHIRE.

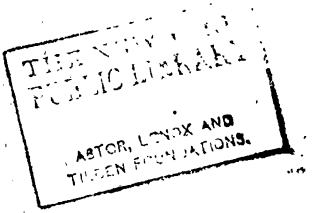
THE remains of this Abbey, now converted into a pleasing country residence, are situated on the banks of the Thames, nearly opposite to the town of Great Marlow, in Buckinghamshire, and distant about two miles from Henley. It was erected by William Montacute, earl of Salisbury, in the year 1338, for canons regular of the order of St. Augustine. In 1536 it was surrendered to Henry VIII.; its revenues at that period were valued at £285 : 11 *per annum*. The following year it was refounded by that monarch, and more amply endowed for the maintenance of thirteen monks of the order of St. Benedict, and an abbot, who enjoyed the privilege of sitting in parliament. This was dissolved however within three years of its institution, the income at that time amounting to the yearly value of £661 : 14 : 9, and a pension of £66 : 13 : 4 annually bestowed on Cowdrey the abbot.

It is difficult to account for the various dedications of this Abbey previous to the period when it fell into the hands of Henry. In the first charter it was dedicated to the Lord Jesus Christ and the Virgin his mother; in the second to the Virgin only; and in both the deeds of surrender we find it entitled the conventual church of

the Holy Trinity. The Abbey was frequently resorted to by Henry VIII. and also by his daughter queen Elizabeth, who made it her place of residence for some time: a large state apartment yet retains the name of the queen's council-chamber.

Bisham church is seated close by the river, and contains many monuments to record the memory of the Hoby's, to whose family the site of the Abbey was granted by Edward VI. The bones of the founder are said to have been removed from Cirencester, in Gloucestershire, to this church by Maud his widow, she having obtained a license for that purpose from Henry V.

The banks of the Thames are, in the neighbourhood of Bisham, richly decorated with many noble mansions, and grounds beautifully laid out.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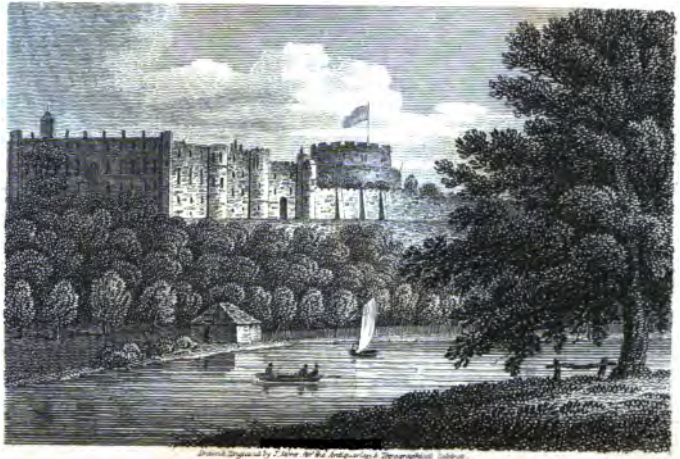


Windsor Castle

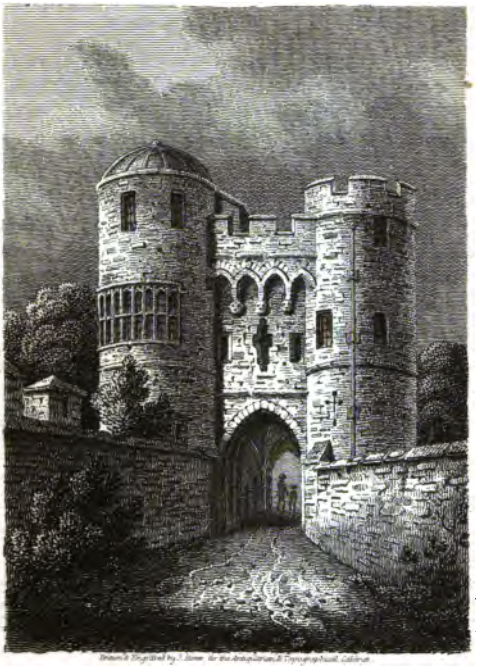
WINDSOR CASTLE,

BERKSHIRE.

This venerable fortress owes its origin to William the Conqueror, who soon after his establishment upon the throne, perceiving how favourable the country hereabout was for his darling sport the chase, gave to the monastery of St. Peter at Westminster certain lands and manors in Essex in lieu of their possessions at Windsor. The Castle was at first designed as a hunting-seat; the parks were soon after laid out, and the bounds of the forest greatly extended: rigid laws were likewise enacted for the preservation of the game. The edifice was considerably improved by Henry I. and enlarged by additional buildings; for its greater security the whole was surrounded by a strong wall—indeed so great were the alterations made by this monarch, that by some he has been reputed its founder. Henry II. held a parliament here in 1170; and when Richard Cœur-de-Lion departed on his romantic expedition to the Holy Land, the bishop of Ely, who was left in great authority, made it the place of his residence. King John during his contest with the barons resided here, and by them the place was besieged without success in 1216. Queen Eleanor, consort of Edward I. was extremely attached to this spot, and was

here delivered of four of her children. Edward III. of triumphant memory, was born at Windsor, and to him it owes its present sublimity and grandeur. The improvements made by this prince extended to nearly the whole of the ancient fabric, which, with the exception of the three towers at the west end of the lower ward, was entirely taken down, and the principal part of the building as it now stands erected on its site. The mode of procuring workmen for this purpose is related in Ashmole's History of the Order of the Garter—" The king granted his letters patent to certain surveyors, empowering them to impress as many hewers of stone, carpenters, and other artificers as might be necessary for the due and honest performance of the great undertaking.

In the year 1357 the celebrated William of Wickham was appointed to superintend the works, with the salary of 1*s*. daily and 3*s*. per week for his clerk. Various alterations and additional buildings have been made by succeeding monarchs. The beautiful chapel of St. George was enlarged and rebuilt by Edward IV. The roof of its choir was vaulted by Henry VII. Henry VIII. Edw. VI. and queen Mary, each contributed to ennoble the fabric. Queen Elizabeth raised the terrace on the north side, which commands a prospect over one of the finest valleys in the kingdom. Several improvements were made by Charles I. but during the civil wars the Castle was much injured, and the palace of the sovereign became his prison. The chief improvements made here in the last



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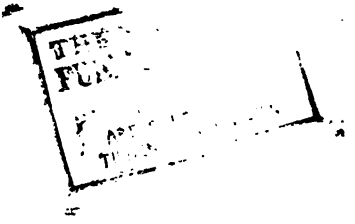
Windsor Castle, Berks.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond St. & J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. Oct. 1st 1811.



century have been under the directions of his present Majesty.

The Castle is divided into two courts, called the upper and lower wards, which are separated by the keep, which is built upon a lofty artificial mount, surrounded by a moat. The ascent to the upper apartments is by a long flight of steps, having a cannon planted at the top, and levelled at the entrance. The curtain of the tower is the only battery in the Castle; it contains seventeen pieces of ordnance; these are retained as objects of ornament rather than utility. From the summit of this tower may be seen the most enchanting prospect that can well be conceived. The majestic Thames is seen winding through a great extent of country which is diversified with all the varieties of forest scenery, fertile fields, busy hamlets, and crowded towns. The names of the following counties that are hence in prospect are written upon a board near the top of the tower—Middlesex, Essex, Hertford, Bucks, Berks, Oxford, Wilts, Hants, Surry, Sussex, Kent, and Bedford; the dome of St. Paul's may be plainly discerned when the atmosphere is in a favourable state.

The chief curiosities within this fabric are the arms deposited in the guard chamber, consisting of whole, half, and quarter pikes, bandoleers of different sizes, and some of the the first matchlocks that were ever constructed. The pillars of the door leading to the dining-room are composed of pikes, these are surmounted by

two coats of mail, said to have been worn by John, king of France, and David, king of Scotland, when prisoners in the Castle; they are inlaid with gold, and ornamented, one with fleurs-de-lys, the other with thistles. In this tower resides the governor or constable, who is invested with full powers to defend the Castle against foreign and domestic enemies; he is also empowered to decide all disputes within the precincts of the forest.

In the presence chambers of their majesties were deposited the Cartoons of Raphael, which are now removed to Hampton Court, for the convenience of Mr. Holloway, who has received his majesty's permission to engrave them. The royal apartments are all of them adorned with the choicest efforts of the imitative art; among them are portraits of some of the most distinguished personages who lived in the time of Charles II.

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Gate of Abbingdon Abbey Berks

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke New Bond St. & J. Carpenter Old Bond St. Dec. 1. 1808.

THE ABBEY GATE, ABINGDON,

BERKS.

THE town of Abingdon was called by the Saxons Seukesham, Shoevesham, or Seovechesham; but after the Abbey was founded here by king Cissa and Heane his nephew, it gradually dropped its ancient name, and began to assume that of Abandun, and Abbingdon, i. e. the town of the Abbey; and Kenwin, who governed the West Saxons after Cissa, gave the town as an endowment for the Abbey, and ordered that it should be called Abendun. Dugdale, in his Monasticon, observes, "There were twelve mansions about this monastery at first, and as many chapels, inhabited by twelve monks, without any cloister, but shut in with a high wall, none being allowed to go out without great necessity, and the abbot's leave. No woman ever entered the same, and none dwelt there but the twelve monks and the abbot. They wore black habits and lay on sackcloth, never eating flesh unless in dangerous illness." In the reign of Alfred the monastery was destroyed by the Danes, and lay in ruins till the year 954, when, through the cunning policy of Dunstan, who, to promote his own schemes, was endeavouring to fill the kingdom with Benedictine institutions, and the persuasions of Ethelwold, afterwards bishop of Winchester, king Edgar restored it to some portion of its ancient magnifi-

cence. Ethelwold, who was appointed abbot, enlarged the buildings, erected the Abbey church, and embellished it with many costly ornaments: succeeding abbots increased its splendour, and, soon after the conquest, its wealth and grandeur is supposed to have been equal to any similar foundation in the kingdom. About this time the buildings appear to have undergone many alterations; the church was partly rebuilt by Fabricius, who died in 1117. The central tower, the body of the church, and the west front, with its towers, were erected by four succeeding abbots. At the dissolution, this splendid fabric, together with all the monastic buildings, except the Gate-house, which has since been converted into a jail, were destroyed. The revenues were rated at nearly £2000 *per annum*.

The Gate-house, which, with a little care, might be made an ornament to the town, is at present in a most deplorable state of uncleanness; patched and barricadoed for the opprobrious purposes of imprisonment. The most interesting part of this erection is a rich canopy, containing the remains of a statue, which appears to have been of excellent sculpture.

This Abbey was the burial place of many illustrious persons. The remains of Cissa were interred within its walls: Geoffery of Monmouth, St. Vincent, Sidemanne, bishop of Crediton, and Robert D'Oily, were among the eminent characters whose bones were here committed to the silent tomb. The relics of Edward the Martyr were also, according to Leland, preserved in this fabric.

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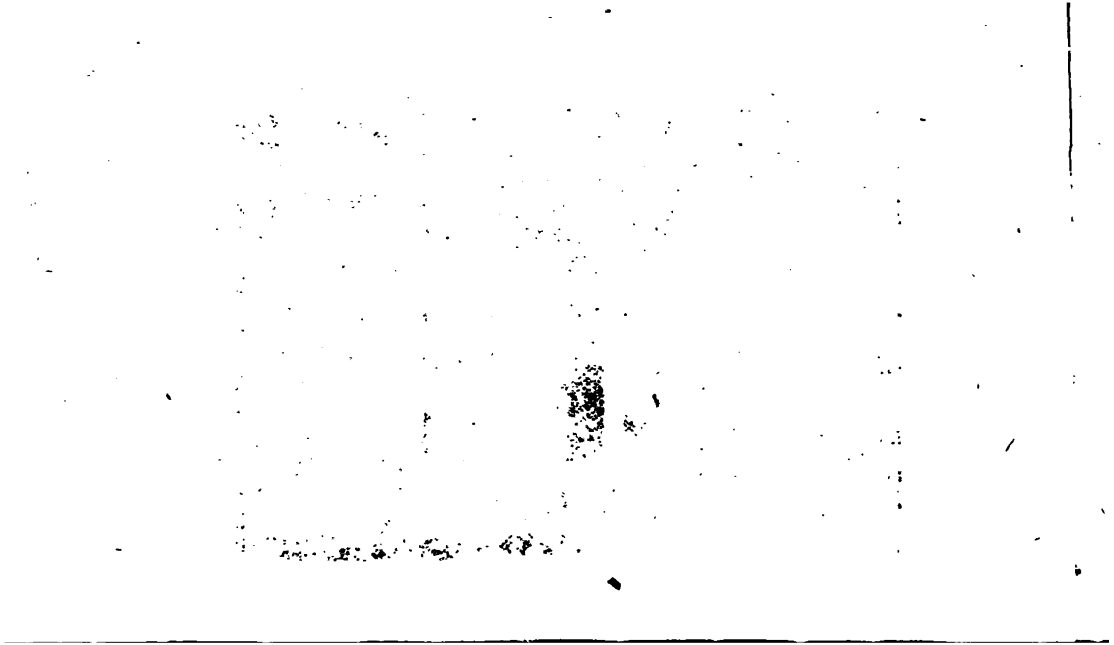
W. Door of St Nicholas Church Berks



ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, ABINGDON,

BERKS.

THE Church of St. Nicholas, which stands by the abbey gate, was erected in the latter part of the twelfth century by Nicholas, abbot of Abingdon, for the use of the town. It is now an ordinary building, exhibiting scarcely any thing of its original construction, excepting the western door, which is a curious relic of Anglo-Norman architecture. This is remarkable for being the door through which the inhabitants of Abingdon, assisted by some of the scholars and townsmen of Oxford, gained an entrance into the Abbey, where they committed the most dreadful outrages; of which the following account occurs in its Chronicle.—"In the year 1327, on a Monday, about Easter, all the townsmen of Abingdon assembled in St. Helen's church, to take counsel about the ordination of the market and stalls, which time out of mind belonged to the abbey; in which meeting they thundered out threats of spoil and death against the monks, of which they were informed by some who bore them good will. On the next Wednesday the insurgents assembled together in the same church of St. Helen at midnight, and after laying their plan, at the break of day went to the guildhall, newly erected by the monks, and destroyed it; and thence, intending to

commit an outrage on the Abbey, they went to the Church of St. Nicholas, the gate of which they burnt; but whilst they were doing it, certain seculars, deputed to defend the monastery, fell upon and put them to flight, making some prisoners. The Abingdonians, mortified at their loss, sent privately to the commonalty of Oxford to desire their help, who, with some idle scholars, readily joined them; and, after ravaging in their way the manor of Northcote, belonging to the abbey, entered the town of Abingdon, and going to the abbey gate, gave insulting and base language, threw stones, shot arrows, and set fire to the gate, and finally entered into the abbey through the church of St. Nicholas, freed the malefactors confined in the abbey prison, and, burning the inner and outer gates of the abbey, admitted the rabble; who, entering the Church, killed and maltreated the monks, then assembled before the altar, whilst the abbot and some others escaped by fording the river: after this, they burnt the charters, and stripped the church and the treasury of all the plate. The total damage done amounted to £40,000—an enormous sum for these times."

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Stone Henge. Wilts.

STONE HENGE,

WILTSHIRE.

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STONEHENGE,

WILTSHIRE.

THIS interesting assemblage of Stones is situated about seven miles north from the city of Salisbury, and may be considered as one of the earliest efforts of that art which attained its consummation in the highly-wrought cathedral of New Sarum. Many and divers have been the conjectures of the learned relative to the origin of Stonehenge, though discussions so much at variance are little calculated to render less opaque the veil of obscurity in which the subject has been for so many centuries enveloped. Some have supposed this rude mass to have been erected for astronomical observations, and have taken considerable pains, and employed much ingenuity to point out its particular application to that purpose. Geoffry of Monmouth ascribes its erection to Ambrosius, as a monument to the memory of the chieftains who on that spot fell victims to the treachery of the Saxons.

The appearance of these Stones, viewed at a distance across the immense plain of Salisbury, is exceedingly diminutive: thus a sudden and of course a more impressive sight of them in full magnitude can scarcely be obtained. They appear to have formed two circles: the outer one consisted originally of thirty uprights, sur-

mounted with stones, placed horizontally on their tops; they are not of uniform heights, but are generally about sixteen feet in height, and measure in circumference nearly eighteen. The second circle is of uprights, without imposts, varying still more in size than those of the outer circle. It has been asserted that these Stones are merely composition; but, upon a minute examination by persons well acquainted with the science of mineralogy, their species are distinctly proved.

"Thou noblest monument of Albion's isle,
Whether by Merlin's aid, from Scythia's shore,
To Amber's fatal plain, Pendragon bore,
Huge frame of giant hands the mighty pile,
T'entomb his Britons slain by Henguist's guile,
Or druid priests, sprinkled with human gore,
Taught 'mid thy massy maze their mystic lore:
Or Danish chiefs, enrich'd with savage spoil,
To Victory's idol vast, an unhewn shrine,
Rear'd the rude heap; or, in thy hallow'd round,
Repose the kings of Brutus' genuine line;
Or here those kings in solemn state were crown'd.
Studious to trace thy pond'rous origin,
We muse on many an ancient tale renown'd."

Salisbury, Wilts.

SALISBURY,

WILTSHIRE.

The flourishing and extensive city of Salisbury derived its origin from the ruins of Old Sarum, a very strong position, at the distance of about a mile from the present city. The ramparts and ditches still remain, exhibiting a most interesting display of ancient fortification; but scarcely a vestige of its mural grandeur is now to be seen. The frequent contentions that took place between the clergy and the military, induced the former to apply to the pope for leave to remove the see to a more commodious and agreeable situation, complaining, among other things, of a most distressing scarcity of water, though it is asserted by Hollingshed that the hill abounds with wells and springs of sweet water. Mr. King, in his "Munimenta Antiqua" inclines to the same opinion, "continuing," says he, "as a city of such dignity so long this place affords a decided proof, among others, that the apparent want of water in such situations could be no decided objection to such spots being used as permanent habitations; for here dwelt a multitude throughout many ages, till a civilization and ideas of freedom increased. In the time of Henry III. the desire of avoiding the oppression and insults of the proud garrison

above, rather than the want of water, induced the inhabitants to remove to the open plain beneath, where bishop Poore began to build for them the present magnificent church of Salisbury; and to this place even the very stones and rubbish of Old Sarum where, by degrees, conveyed, as the remains of Babylon were to Bagdat, and those of Memphis to Cairo." In proof of the insolence of the soldiery to the religious of Old Sarum, Leland says, "That the castellanes upon a time prohibited them cumming from procession and rogation to re-enter the town."

The city of Salisbury is plentifully watered by a fine stream which is carried in channels through the streets, contributing to the cleanliness and health of the inhabitants. The houses are principally of brick, built without much regard to uniformity.

Some very handsome shops present themselves in the larger streets; in these may be seen a choice exhibition of cutlery goods, for the manufactory of which this place is famous. The other articles manufactured here are woollen serges, kerseymeres, figured cloths for waistcoats, and fine flannels, though the woollen trade has suffered considerably during the present war.

Salisbury contains three parish churches besides the cathedral. St. Thomas's stands on the west side of the market-place; it was built as a chapel of ease to the cathedral about the year 1240; its length is 130 feet, and its breadth seventy, including a body, two aisles, three

chancels, and a vestry-room: it was dedicated to St. Thomas-à-Becket, by bishop Bingham, whose fond attachment to that turbulent priest was the cause of its erection, it being intended to commemorate his supposed martyrdom. On the outer wall of this church at the west end is a curious wooden monument, representing Abraham offering up his Son Isaac, Jacob's Dream, and his Bargain about the striped and ringed Cattle: beneath is this inscription—"Here under lieth the body of Humphrey Beckham, who died the 2d of Feb. anno 1671, aged 88. His $\frac{e}{on}$ work." By this it appears, that the artist was so well pleased with his performance, miserable as it is, that he desired no other memorial to record his fame. The church of St. Edmund's is a handsome structure, with a tower ornamented with four pinnacles; this was founded in 1268 by Walter de la Wyle, bishop of Sarum; it stands on the north-east corner of the city. On the north side of this church was a painted window, the destruction of which by Henry Sherfield, esq. in the time of archbishop Laud, occasioned a process in the star-chamber; by its sentence he was compelled to pay a fine of £500, and acknowledge his offence before the bishop of the diocese. In the chancel of St. Edmund's is the family vault of the descendants of sir Wadham Wyndham. The churchyard is planted with rows of lime trees, which shade the four sides of the burial-ground.

This spot is supposed to have been the scene of a

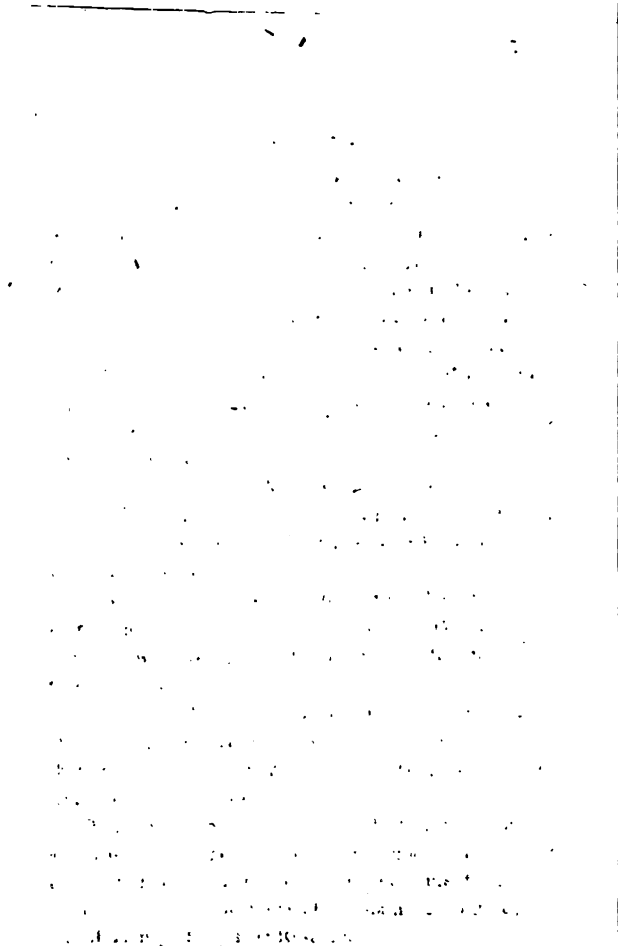
sanguinary battle, fought between Cynric king of the West Saxons and the Britons, when the latter were defeated with great slaughter, and compelled to surrender the important fortress of Old Sarum. In the year 1771, the mouldering bones of nearly thirty bodies, several pike heads, a large iron sword, and several other warlike implements were found here. This circumstance gives weight to the above-named supposition, and in commemoration of these particulars, Mr. Windham caused an urn to be erected near the place, with an appropriate Latin inscription.

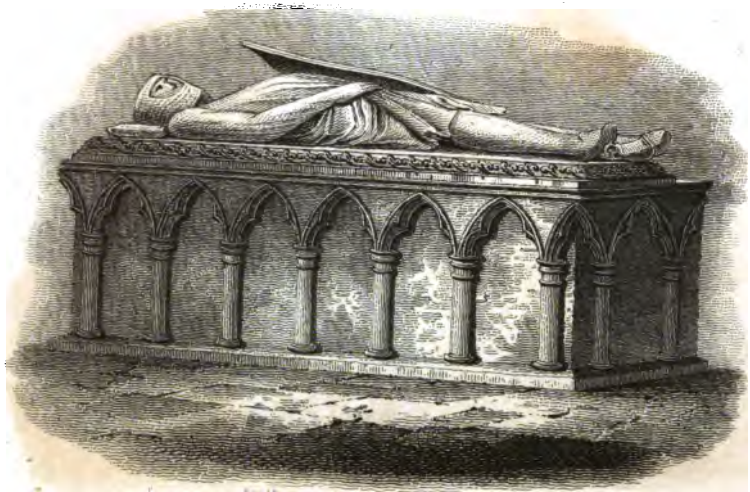
The church of St. Martin is upon the outskirts of the town; the period of its erection is not clearly known. Near it are some remains of the foss, which in former times defended the city.

The council-house, which is situated in the south-east corner of the market-place, is a handsome structure; it was erected by Jacob, earl of Radnor, about twenty years ago.

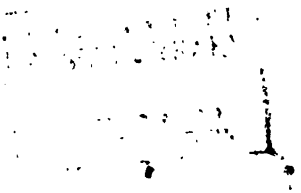
At a short distance from the council-house is a cross, of an hexagonal form, having a roof, which serves for a shelter for the country people, who bring butter, poultry, and vegetables to market.

The pride of Salisbury is its cathedral, which is perhaps the most elegant in form and proportion of any in England. It contains many curious monuments. Among them is one to the memory of William de Clifford, the son of Henry II. by Fair Rosamond.





Tomb of Wm. D. Clifford. Salisbury Cathedral.



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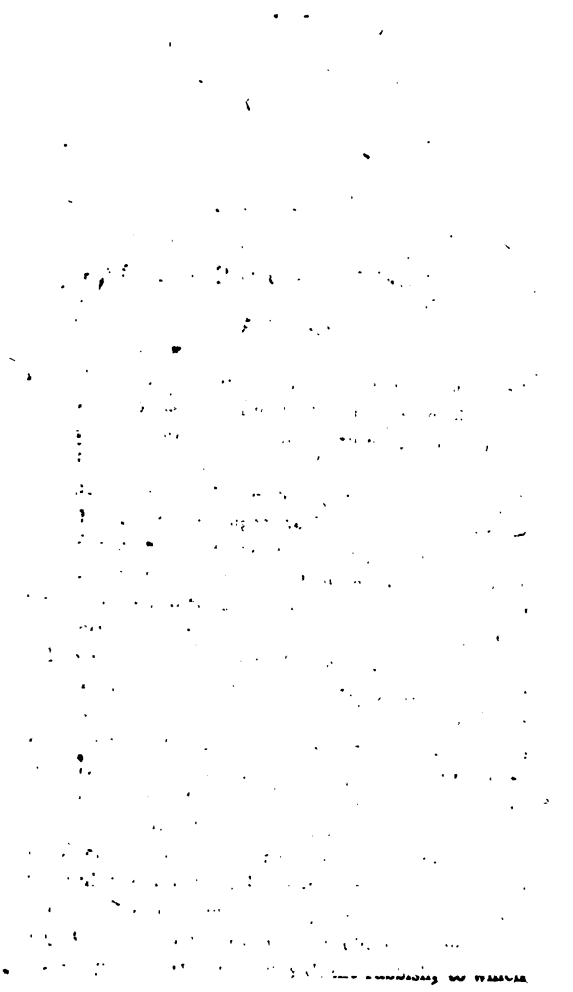
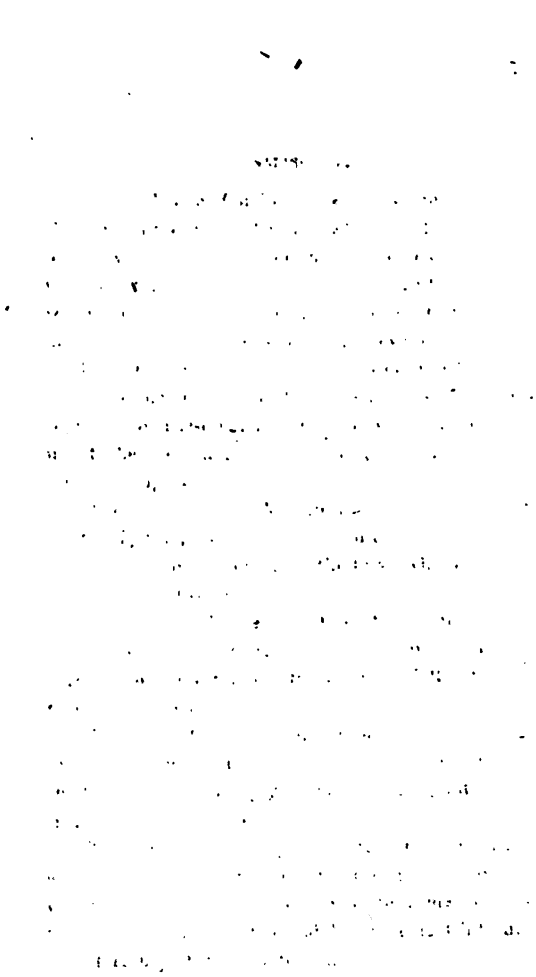
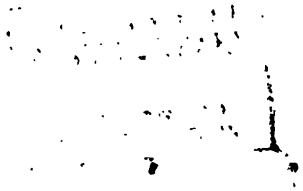
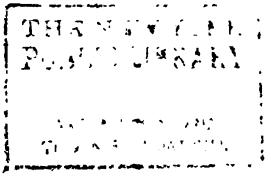
Antient Porch Salisbury Wilts.





Tomb of Wm. D. Clifford, Salisbury Cathedral.





Antient Porch Salisbury, Wilts.

ANCIENT PORCH, SALISBURY,

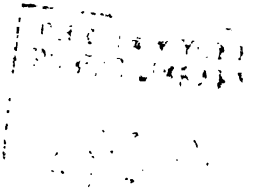
WILTS.

THIS elegant remnant of Gothic architecture is supposed, originally, to have been part of a cross erected in Old Sarum, most probably of two or three stories, as was usual in structures of that description.

After its removal from the old city, it seems to have been abridged of its upper works, and lowered to the basement story, for the purpose of adapting it as a porch to bishop Poer's new edifice. Thus miserably truncated, it was covered with a flat roof of lead; and in that state served as a north vestibule to the present cathedral upwards of 500 years; but when, in consequence of some modern arrangement in that venerable pile, it was thought necessary to shut up the entrance which it formed part of, this, then useless excrescence, was, with the consent of the dean and chapter, presented to H. P. Wyndham, esq. of the college in Salisbury, who, with that fine taste that knows how to appreciate such curious monuments of antiquity, has given it a place in his beautiful grounds, and, by that means, has preserved from ruin, a most exquisite specimen of the purest early Gothic, which otherwise would inevitably have long since been overwhelmed with the rubbish, to which

similar relics, too often wantonly in the rage for innovation, and almost always without any good reason, dismembered from our venerable cathedrals and monastic buildings, are most shamefully consigned.

The spire it terminates in, as well as all the lesser ornaments, are of Mr. Wyndham's judicious addition, being fragments preserved, and happily selected from the wreck of such parts of the cathedral as were sacrificed to the style of reparation it underwent about fifty years ago, near the time when the present fortunate position was given to the excommunicated subject of the accompanying Plate.



Engraved & Published by J. Ang. Jun. Lutz, from a Sketch by G. Shepperd.

St. John's Church Devizes. Wilts.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, DEVIZES,

WILTSHIRE.

Devizes is a populous town in Wiltshire, distant eighty-seven miles and a half from London, and probably derives its name from the latin word *devisa*, signifying division, a name supposed to have been conferred on this town from its being anciently divided between the king and bishop of Salisbury: it is a town of great antiquity, and asserted by Dr. Stukely to have been the Punctuobice of Ravennus. The Romans enclosed it with a vallum and ditch, in the last of which the inhabitants have made a road almost round the town; but in many places both the ditch and vallum are still visible; they took in the castle, which was a Roman work, erected in a fine situation: it was well fortified by nature; and in after times rendered nearly impregnable by Roger, bishop of Salisbury, although it is now destroyed. Many Roman remains, consisting principally of pottery and coins, have been found here; and not far from the town, under the ruins of an ancient building enclosed with Roman brick, several brass statues of heathen deities were discovered, supposed to have been there deposited in the early Roman times.

At Devizes are two churches. The Church of St.

John's exhibits a fine specimen of the Norman style of architecture in its tower and in some of its internal decorations; the lower parts have been much altered, since the first erection of the Church, and from the form of the arches and ornaments, appear to have been added about the reign of Henry IV.

Devizes is a corporate borough, consisting of a mayor, recorder, ten magistrates, and twenty-four common councilmen, who have the liberty of making what number of burgesses they please, all of whom have the right of voting for members of parliament.

The principal manufactures of Devizes are serges, kerseymeres, and broad cloths; the latter branches afford employment to upwards of 1000 persons.

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Stone Cross, in Gt. Bedwin Ch. Yd. Wilts.

Published by the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond St. & J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. May 1, 1818.

CROSS IN BEDWIN CHURCHYARD,

WILTSHIRE.

BEDWIN Church is of considerable magnitude, and of the collegiate form; though its origin is not of early date, it possesses some singularities which attract the attention of the curious. The arches throughout the building are of the pointed form and plain; but those above the windows on the inside are loaded with the zigzag moulding: the pillars forming the nave and choir are clustered. At the intersection of the transcepts rises a plain massive tower. On the south side of the church are fly-buttresses to support the roof. On the north side the entrance is through a handsome and highly-enriched porch of wood, near which is the Cross, of which the annexed Print is a representation. The shaft is octangular and elegantly formed, surmounted with a large diamond-wrought stone; its lower part is strengthened by two tiers of small abutments: it stands upon a deep basement ascended to by three steps. These Crosses, many of which still remain in various parts of the kingdom, were erected, some of them for boundaries of property, parishes, and sanctuary; others commemorated battles, murders, and other fatal occurrences; but they were principally intended for devotional purposes, and are commonly seen near

churches, or in the crossways leading thereto, where they were undoubtedly regarded with idolatrous adoration. In an instrument dated November the 25th, 1449, relating to the churchyard of St. Mary Magdalen, in Milk Street, London, it is said, that in a plot of "voide grounde," on the west side of that street, there "stode a crosse of the height of a man or more, and that the same crosse was worshipped by the parisshens there as crosses be *commonly* worshipped in other chircheyardes."

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STOURTON CHURCH,

WILTS.

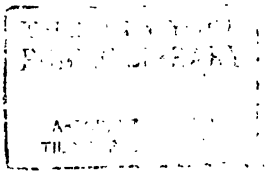
The parish Church of Stourton, in Wiltshire, is a handsome Gothic building, with a tower at the west end, but has no peculiar claim on the notice of the antiquary, with respect to its age or its architecture, from any thing it can boast to possess either within or without.

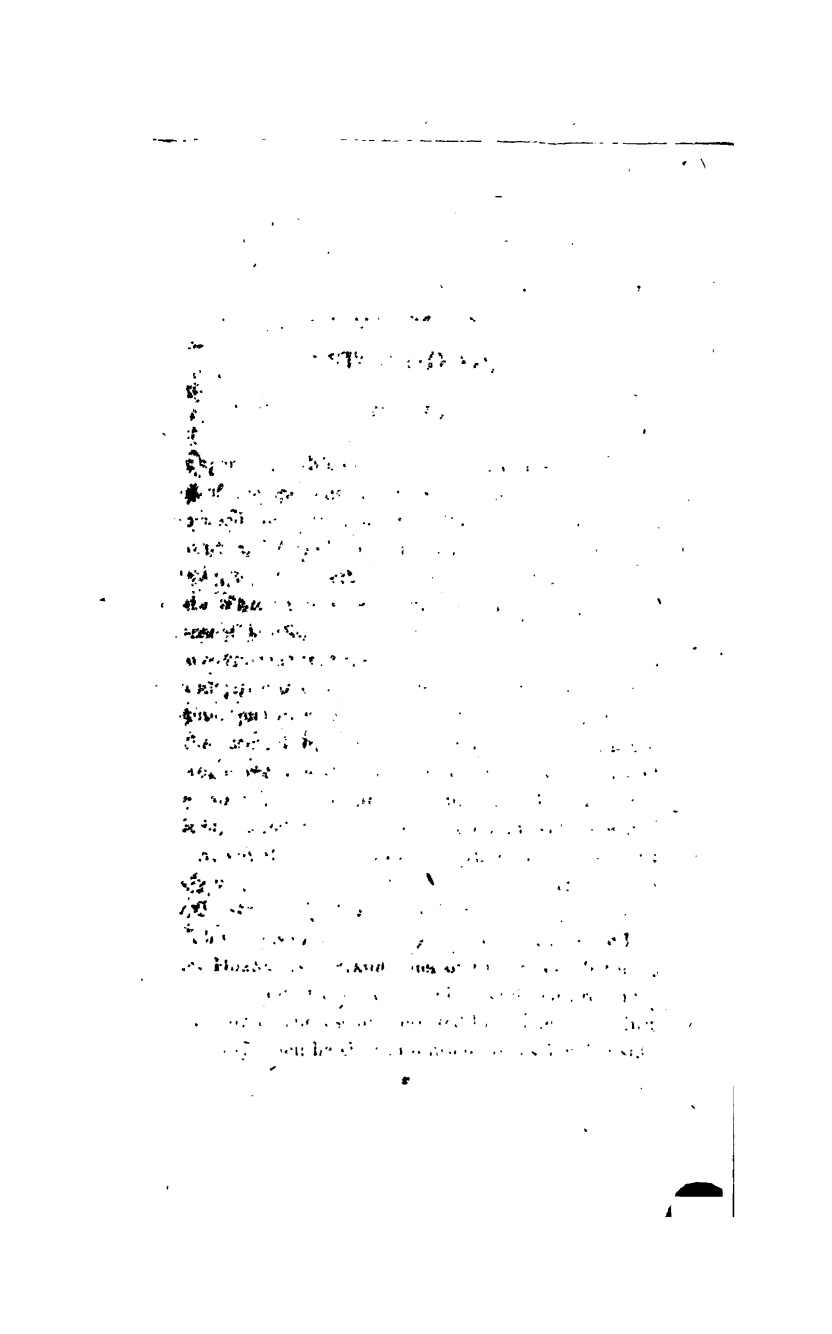
As the mausoleum of Stourhead, it contains some monuments of the Stourton family, its former possessors, and since of the family of Hoare, their successors in the possession, particularly a most beautiful marble sarcophagus, to the memory of the late lady Hoare.

For the traveller and the draftsman it cannot fail to have attractions, as it forms a most picturesque appendage to the charming grounds of Stourhead, when grouped with the inn and the other houses of the village.

The houses, from being almost all inhabited by sir Richard Hoare's married servants, wear a neatness of appearance rarely to be met with in any other part of the kingdom; a striking proof of the refinement and taste which ever associate with the worthy baronet. The fronts of the houses are covered with roses, jessamines, and various sorts of climatis, producing a most gay and pleasing effect, and nothing sordid or vulgar meets the eye any where.

A little to the north-west of the Church, and seen from it, within, but just on the verge of, the gardens, stands the cross formerly belonging to the city of Bristol, and purchased of that corporation by the late H. Hoare, esq. It is one of the most delicate relics of that species of architecture, and is adorned with the statues of many of the kings and queens of England, benefactors to that city. Its height is thirty-nine feet six inches, and is terminated by a gilt ball, which catching the eye through the foliage of the larch and other trees, by which it is surrounded, becomes a striking object on entering Stourton, with which it is so judiciously connected, as to appear to have been originally constructed for the village.





STOURHEAD,

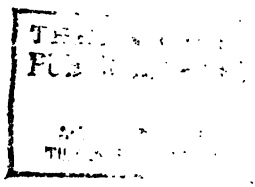
WILTS.

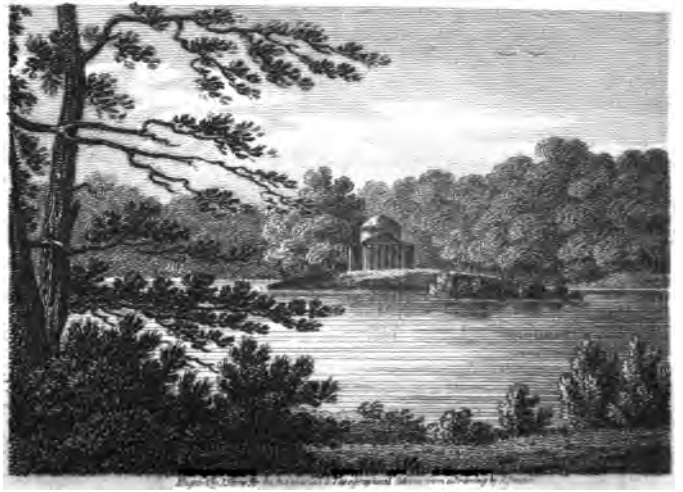
THE spot from which this View was taken is to the westward of the gardens, or more ornamental grounds of Stourhead, on the descent of the road leading to the convent and Alfred's tower; at no great distance from the very beautiful cottage of the reverend Mr. Partridge, curate of Stourton, where suddenly a most delightful and extensive landscape bursts upon the eye, that here has room to traverse over great inequalities of surface, clothed with majestic woods, happily broken in the first distance by some picturesque cottages, interspersed with trees; in the second by the conical hill that rises in the centre, covered with the noblest growth of larch and every species of the fir tribe, intermixed with other deciduous forest-trees; embosomed on one side of which the convent stands, the prospect terminating in Alfred's stately tower, which here intervenes with great effect, to vary the straight line of the horizon.

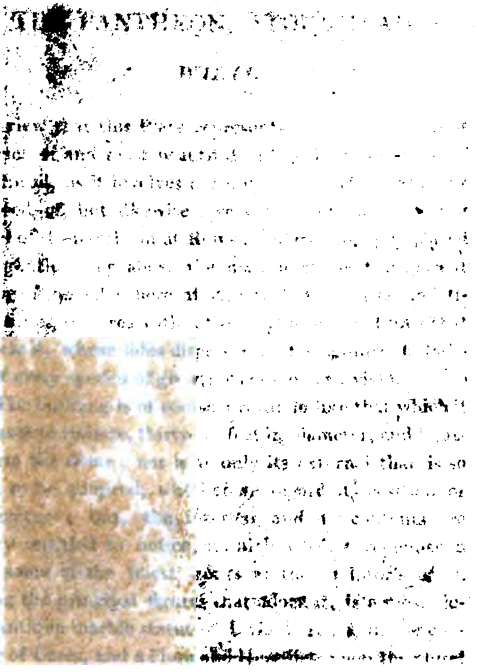
This appropriate building was erected by the late Henry Hoare, esq. grandfather of the present baronet, to commemorate the spot where it is said that great monarch, Alfred, successfully erected his standard against the Danes, when he shewed himself to his longing sub-

Jects, after he had profited by his temporary disappearance and disguise, and is to this day called King's Settle Hill.

The tower is triangular, and near 200 feet high, and has, in a niche over the entrance, a fine statue of the illustrious character to which it is dedicated. From its summit you command one of the most extensive views in the kingdom.







THE PANTHEON, STOURHEAD,

WILTS.

THE view that this Plate represents, is, perhaps, one of the richest and most beautiful in the whole grounds of Stourhead, as it involves not only wood and water finely disposed of, but likewise a very superb building on the model of the pantheon at Rome; and most happily placed on a gentle rising above the margin of the transparent mirror of the lake, here at its broadest expanse, and almost filling the area within the amphitheatre of hills that encircle it, whose sides display a most magnificent clothing of every species of growth the forest can yield.

The building is of course a rotundo like that which it professes to imitate, thirty-six feet in diameter, and lighted from the dome; nor is it only its external that is so much to be admired, whether we regard its position or architecture; but, the internal and its contents are equally entitled to notice, its niches being replenished with some of the finest works of the sculptor's hand. Among the principal figures that adorn it, is a most elegant antique marble statue of Livia Augusta, in the character of Ceres, and a Flora and Hercules, from the chisel of Rysbrack, the most finished specimens of his art.

A walk that is conducted above the sloping margin of

the lake, and continued all the way round, receives you at the foot of the hill which you descend from the upper grounds immediately about the house, and leads you to this magnificent object; or, if you wish to avoid such delightful circuity, a boat, always ready, ferries you over. When you arrive at this lovely spot, the opposite side presents scenes that amply repay you for shifting your ground. The temple of Flora, embosomed in a clump of lofty trees, exactly fronts it; an edifice that does great honour to the taste of the designer; through a little hollow, to the right of which, the eye, insinuating itself, catches a very picturesque, but partial, view of the church, the village, and the so justly admired cross, and sweeping round still in a northerly direction to the right, is arrested by another noble building on the brow of a hill, that forms the northern boundary of the lake, the temple of the sun, on the model of that at Balbec.

Peter's Pump, Stourhead, Somersetshire.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Locke, New Bond Street, and T. Carpenter, Old Bond Street, May 1, 1811.

PETER'S PUMP, STOURHEAD,

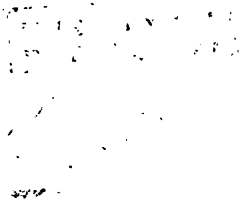
SOMERSETSHIRE.

THIS beautiful little structure, situate in the grounds of sir R. C. Hoare, bart. formerly ending in a cross, once stood near the churchyard of St. Peter's, in the city of Bristol, exactly opposite to an almshouse, now destroyed, which was built by Robert Aldworth, and there served to point out the well of St. Edith, remarkable for its fine water, as in its present translation it does the source of the Stour, which rose from six wells, borne as the badge of their house by the Stourton family, than which no heraldic bearing perhaps can shew so singular and characteristic an origin.

Bristol, at the period this was removed, seems to have contracted an inveterate enmity to all the ancient relics of architecture that had any allusion to the cross, as if, by so doing, it gave the best proof of having totally abjured Romish errors, and consigned all its Popish lumber to Stourhead, where it has been adopted with great taste, without any suspicion of heresy.

This very appropriate little building, first raised to give notoriety to a fountain, and here applied to the same use, stands in a lovely hollow, the commencement of one of the principal vallies, the so much ad-

mired scenery of Stourhead is composed of, from which the brilliant Stour issues, and a little below expands into a noble lake, in whose crystal mirror those classical buildings the Pantheon and the Temple of Flora, that ornament its banks with the richly variegated landscape are reflected, its waters, till they are lost in the ocean, through all their course, continuing to be the property of the possessor of the Fountain, whence they take their rise.



CROSS AT STEEPLE ASHTON,

WILTS.

STEEPLE ASHTON, in the hundred of Worwelsdown, about two miles south east from Trowbridge, is a small village composed of straggling cottages and a few respectable houses; its general appearance is rendered extremely picturesque by the number of trees that are in its vicinity. The living is a vicarage, and, from some peculiar circumstance, the incumbent must be an unmarried man. The church is an elegant structure, and, from its magnitude, has the appearance of a cathedral: the most beautiful and simple style of English architecture prevails throughout; and its interior cleanliness is highly creditable to the present vicar, who is indefatigable in his attention to this particular. The market-cross is erected upon a large square basement, ascended to by three steps; the shaft is round, its upper part terminated by square mouldings supporting a sun-dial: this termination is probably an addition of comparatively modern date.

Mr. Charles Clarke, fellow of the Antiquarian Society, in his letters on ancient crosses, published in the Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain, says, "Crosses were well-known appendages and ornaments of every market-place, and were frequently supported on an ar-

cade, which served to shelter the sellers of small commodities. Of this kind I recollect one at Maidstone, in Kent, built of oak, and I think there were others at Milton and Feversham. In some other towns in that county the spots in their markets, so occupied formerly, yet retain the name of the Cross; that at Abingdon stood in the middle of the market-place, and was, as reported, built in the time of king Henry VI. by the fraternity of St. Cross. The city cross at Winchester served also for the same use, and is called the Butter Cross, from retailers of that article taking their station near it, before the new market-house was built in 1772. It is also given as a specimen of the architecture of the reign of Henry VI. When the strongly religious bias of our ancestors is considered, with the evident fondness they had for this memorial of Christianity, which they made the ensign of every virtue, it must be easy to account for placing it in the centre of business, where so many dishonesties were most likely to be put in practice."

Engraved & Published by J. Greig Feb. 1. 1815 from a Drawing by S. Prout.

Trowbridge, Wilts.

TROWBRIDGE,

WILTSHIRE.

TROWBRIDGE is a market town, and is worthy of the notice of the antiquary principally on account of its church, which is esteemed peculiarly elegant and light; it consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, and appears to have been erected about the latter end of the reign of Henry VI. or the early part of Edward IV. The western entrance is surmounted by a very elevated spire.

Trowbridge is distant from London 101 miles, ten from Devizes, and twenty-four from Marlborough. The market is held on a Saturday, and is generally well supplied, and well attended. The principal manufactures carried on here are for broad cloths and kerseymeres, and as these manufactures are on the increase, Trowbridge appears to improve in opulence and respectability.

The river Were flows through a portion of the town, and gives beauty to the surrounding country; there is a handsome stone bridge over the river, near the extremity of the town.

The castle at Trowbridge was formerly a fortress of

great strength, though now destroyed: its walls were extremely thick, and it possessed seven towers. Scarcely any notice of it occurs in history; and its decay has been so rapid, and so nearly complete, that but few traces of it are left except its site.

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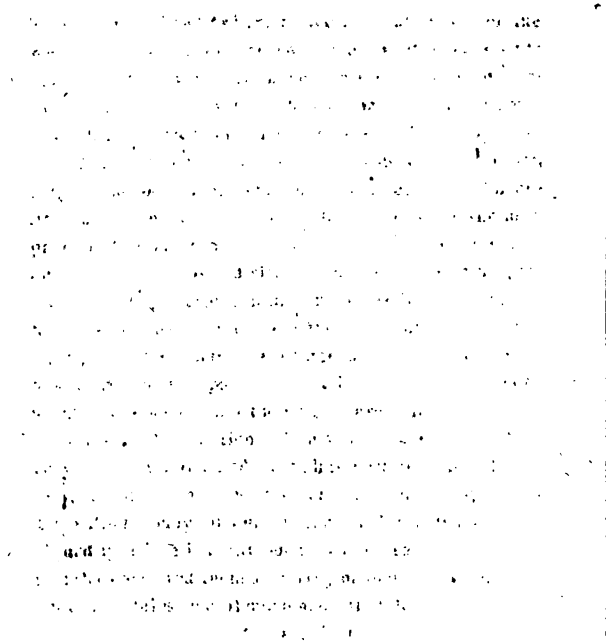
Engraved by J. Alexander the Antiquarian Milligraphical Cabinet from a Drawg by J. Prout.

Town of Bradford Wilts



BRADFORD,

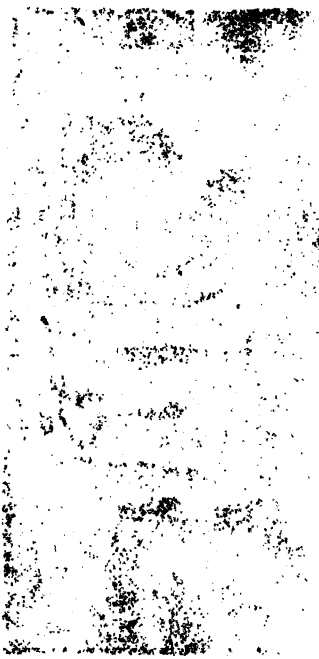
WILTS.

THE town of Bradford is situated near the middle of the western boundary of the county of Wiltshire, on the banks of the Avon. Its name is probably derived from the Saxon Bradenford, or broad ford, which formerly crossed the water in the place where the bridge has since been erected. This bridge consists of nine arches, and commands from its centre a prospect of the most beautiful and romantic scenery. The town is for the most part built upon the declivity of a hill; many of the houses are spacious and elegant, being inhabited by persons possessing large capitals in the woollen trade: the houses are built of stone, but the streets are narrow and irregular. The church is a large and ancient structure, having windows of painted glass, but so much defaced by mischievous hands that the designs are scarcely to be ascertained:—depredations of this sort have of late been very generally lamented, though it must be acknowledged that, besides examples of great talent in this species of decoration, many of our church windows displayed an absurdity of design, attended with a meanness of execution that rendered them unworthy of their situation. The church contains several monuments that deserve attention.

A number of hamlets are included in this vicarage; Westwood, which is one of them, is a rectory, and manages its own poor. The poor of Bradford are very numerous, and are governed by a general overseer, who is elected by housekeepers paying a certain rate: the place is for life, with a salary of £500 *per annum*. The health of this class of the community is committed to the care of a surgeon, who is allowed by the corporation 250 guineas yearly, exclusive of 2*s*. 6*d*. for every inoculation and delivery. Mr. Britton, in his Beauties of Wiltshire, observes, that numerous instances of scrofula are to be found among the poor at Bradford, which he attributes primarily to the dissoluteness of their habits; but, as a collateral cause, mentions the quality of the water that is drank, most of which is impregnated with fixed air and magnesia.

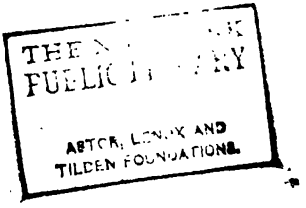
Near the church is a charity-school for the education of sixty-five children, supported by voluntary subscriptions and donations. At the west end of the town is an almshouse, founded by John Hall, esq. the last of a family that had resided at Bradford from the time of Edward I. This town is remarkable for its woollen manufactory, which is the largest of any in the county; but, owing to the introduction of machinery, fewer hands are employed than formerly, and a great number of the labourers have been induced to seek for other means of subsistence.

"The manufactories of Bradford," says Mr. Britton, "are almost wholly confined to the clothing trade; it is



Engraved by J. Storer, for the Antiquarian Topographical Cabinet, from a Drawn by S. Prout.

Bradford Wilts.


ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

the largest and most regular in its manufacture of any in Wilts, perhaps in the kingdom; one manufactory alone employs from 1000 to 1500 persons. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the making of fine broad cloths; from ten to 12,000 pieces being sent away annually. A few clergy, or ladies cloths, are made here, and also some kerseymeres and fancy pieces; but the manufacture of these articles is carried to a much greater extent in the neighbouring town of Trowbridge.

"The first stage the wool goes through is, trying; this is performed by women. They cut off the pitch, and cleanse the wool from all kinds of hair and impurities. The next stage, it is scowered in a hot lye, made of urine and water; pearl-ashes are sometimes used, but urine is preferable. It is then well washed in the river, near the dye-house, where buckets are placed for the purpose. The next day it is dyed, and the day after washed, by some; others let it remain in the liquor it is dyed in a day longer, that the colours may be firm, and the wool more hollow, not being thrown out of the furnace too hot. It is then dried, picked, (by women) and weighed, in order to ascertain the waste. Afterwards it is oiled with Gallipoli oil, scribbled, carded, slabed, and spun. From the spinner, it is sent to the weaver, who steeps the chain in a size made of glue, dries it, and has it spuled by women. In the next stage, it is warped to the desired length, and the sheet, or abb, dipped in water, for a boy, who winds it on bobbins, to supply the shuttle. It is then

wove, brayed, buried, milled, spuled, drawn, and dressed, fit for the consumer.

"The number of hands employed, men, women, and children, is very great, notwithstanding the advantage of machinery. A person making ten cloths weekly, employs from 130 to 150 people of every description. In this town, the number of clothiers is between sixty and seventy, each house manufacturing to the extent of its capital."

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Font Asbury Church Wilts.

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LEADEN FONT, AVEBURY CHURCH,

WILTS.

Fonts made of lead are supposed to be of high antiquity, and are very rarely to be met with. In this country only five are known to be in existence—one at Brookland, in Kent; at Dorchester, in Oxfordshire; at Wareham, in Dorsetshire; at Walmsford, in Northamptonshire; and that at Avebury, in Wiltshire, as represented on the annexed Plate. This Font, which is elevated on a basement of stone, is circular, and enriched round its upper compartment with a scroll, nearly resembling that which is frequently used in Grecian architecture; below the scroll are twenty-two pillars, supporting intersecting circular arches; the bases of the pillars rest upon a fillet which surrounds the Font.

Mr. Staveley, in his History of Churches, observes, "That the first fonts were set up in private houses; and then, after Christians recovered from persecution, in safe and peaceful times fonts were placed a little distance from the church or oratory. Afterwards they were placed in the *church porch*, and lastly in the *church* itself, as they now stand; but near the entrance, because this is the sacrament of initiation, or admittance into the church, and hath ever since retained the name of

font, or fountain, from the primitive use of baptizing in rivers and fountains. And anciently there was but one font in a city, and that in or near the principal church, which use is still continued at Pisa, Florence, and other cities in Italy. These fonts also were anciently adorned with the images of saints and holy men, to the end that such as were baptized might afterwards have before their eyes the representations of those persons eminent for holiness and virtue, whose actions they were to imitate."

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Malmsbury, Wilts.

MALMSBURY,

WILTS.

THE town of Malmsbury is situated on an eminence, which is peninsulated by two streams, that unite to form the lower Avon. Being situated on the road from London to Bath and Bristol, the town was formerly a considerable thoroughfare, but a new road having been made some years past, Malmsbury is less frequented than formerly. Though it is at present surpassed by many in neatness and elegance of appearance, yet there is reason to believe that a few centuries ago, its magnificent abbey, its castle, and its fortifications, combined, with the other buildings, to render it equal to any town in the county. The arrangement of the principal streets is regular and convenient. The High Street, commencing at the market cross, immediately opposite the south front of the abbey, passes some way in a straight line, then, bending towards the east, crosses a bridge over the Avon, and terminates at the extensive building raised by F. Hill, esq., for the purpose of carrying on the clothing manufacture. The isolated steeple of the parish church of St. Paul is situated at its western termination. The only remaining street of importance is one called the Abbey Row, which, commencing not far from the west end of the abbey, leads

through west port, dividing at length with two branches; one of which terminates in the road to Glocester, and the other to Bristol. The Cross is a handsome building of its kind, supposed to have been erected about the end of the fifteenth century. Leland, in his Itinerary, says, "There is a right fair and costely peace of work in the market place, made al of stone, and curiously vaulted for poore market folks, to stand dry when rayne cummeth; there be eight great pillars and eight open arches, and the work is eight square; one great piller in the middle beareth up the voulte. The men of the towne made this peace of work in hominum memoria."

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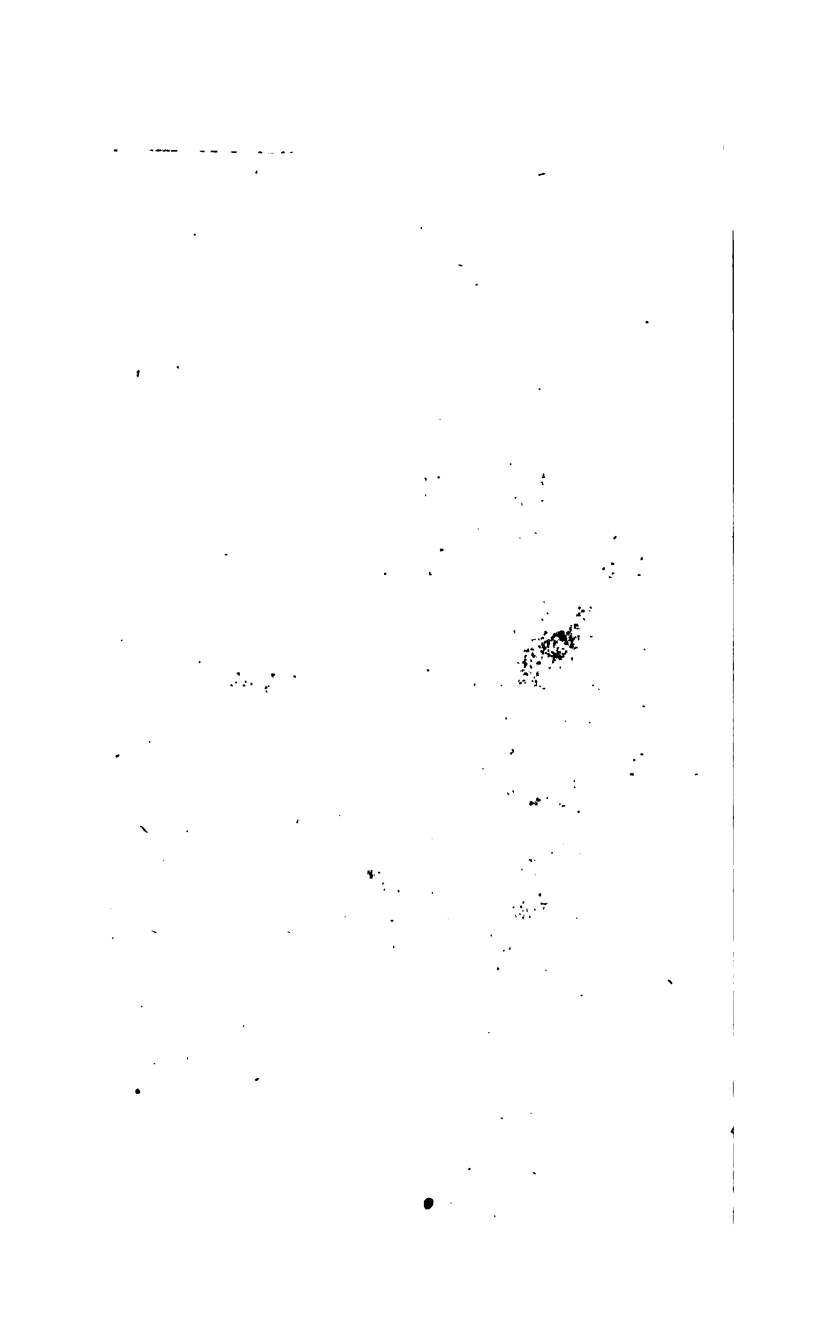


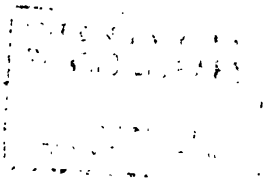
LAYCOCK CROSS,

WILTSHIRE.

THIS Cross is evidently of considerable antiquity, and remains nearly in its original state, consisting of a shaft elevated on six tier of steps, and stands near the centre of the small town of Laycock, which is in the hundred of Chippenham. Three miles from Corsham house is Laycock Abbey, belonging to the Shrewsbury family, situated at the eastern extremity of the village. The mansion and its adjuncts, from the entrance gate, form a very pleasing picture. A Gothic building, with an irregular but elegant front, situated in a wide and fertile flat, planted with venerable trees, among which winds the Avon, yet an infant stream, leading its humble waters to the right of the house, under a small old stone bridge, with pointed arches, the whole backed by distant hills richly wooded. Here was formerly a nunnery, founded by Ela, countess of Salisbury, in 1242. Laycock Abbey still preserves almost entire several members of the original building, such as its north and east fronts, cloisters, chapter house, vestry, with some remains of the church. The dormitory also is shewn: according to a tradition in the family, one of the nuns condemned to this cheerless

abode, exasperated to desperation, precipitated herself from the parapet, choosing liberty or death.

The dwelling rooms are neither elegant in their forms nor in their contents; a few portraits scattered through them bring back the recollection to the ancient renown of the Talbot family. The hall, however, is noble, and worthy of attention—majestic in dimensions, just in its proportions, and curious in its decorations.



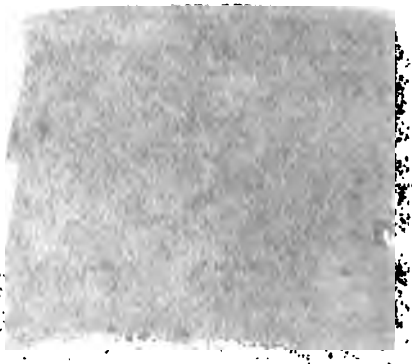
British Antiquities.

Pl. 1

Scale of one Foot.

Funereal Urn.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke Van Bond St. & J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. March 1st 1819.



BRITISH ANTIQUITIES,

WILTSHIRE.

THE following interesting Letter on BRITISH ANTIQUITIES has been contributed by the Rev. E. DUKE, F. A. S.

"SIRS, "Lake House, Amesbury, Wilts.

"THE Urn, of which I have sent you a Drawing (vide Plate I.), was found in a Barrow on my estate at Lake, near Amesbury, opened by me in the month of September, 1806. The admeasurement of the diameter of this Barrow at the base was forty-eight feet nine inches; its elevation was three feet three inches. The Barrow is of a finely-turned bowl shape, and is composed of vegetable earth, taken off from the surface of the surrounding ground. Nearly in its centre was found this Urn, which, for its perfect state and elegance of its contour, when considered as an ancient British Urn, may be pronounced fully equal, and perhaps superior, to any yet discovered. The mensuration of the Urn, and of the fragments of urns (vide Plate II.), may be seen by the accompanying scale. It was placed with its mouth downwards, and, when turned up, was found to be filled with human bones, reduced to small fragments and ashes by a strong fire. The Urn itself appears not to have been strongly baked, and not improbably was only hardened by being placed within a surrounding fire: this supposition may be supported from the circumstance that, when found, it was covered externally with soot. This Barrow contained no other deposit.

"You will now permit me to make a few general observations on the Barrows in this part of the kingdom, and on their contents.—STONEHENGE, near this place, whether considered as an erection for a place of religious worship (which is most probable), for a court of judicature, for a funereal monument, or for astronomical purposes, which different hypotheses have been maintained, may yet be fully considered, is generally believed, and, I think, may be satisfactorily proved to be a construction of the ancient Britons; and the surrounding Barrows may be regarded as the sepulchres of the chieftains, and their families, of this aboriginal race. On the opening of some Barrows, very near to Stonehenge itself, by Mr. Cunnington †, chippings of the stones were found dispersedly in them, which circumstance most fully proves their connection; and the thickly surrounding sepulchral tumuli argue strongly in favour of the hypothesis, that Stonehenge was erected as a religious place of worship.

"The contents of these Barrows are very various, but no Roman antiquities of any kind are to be found in them; we may then regard the most modern of these tumuli to be of the age of 1800 or 2000 years; but from their great numbers, and apparently greater antiquity of some of

† "Great numbers of the Barrows have been investigated by my ingenious friend, Mr. Cunnington, of Heytesbury, for sir R. C. Hoare, who is now engaged in a most interesting work on the Antiquities of this county."

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ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.

British Antiquities.

Pl. 2.

Engraved by J. Craig for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by Charles F. Duke Esq.

[illegible]

them, and their contents, when compared with others, it is impossible to conjecture the remote period of the erection of the earliest of them, since, if they are, as is most probable, the sepulchres of the chieftains and their families *alone*, many centuries, it is reasonable to suppose, must have elapsed between the erection of the earliest and the latest raised of these tumuli; this argument may well induce us to refer their era to the Celtic Britons, a race, whose manners, &c. were probably far diverse from those of their successors, the Belgæ, who are described by Cæsar and other authors. The Barrows contain, according as they possess the remains of either sex, sepulchral urns, spear-heads of a mixed metal, stone celts, flint arrow-heads, bone instruments (vide Plate III.) beads of amber (vide Plate IV.), jet, glass, and stone, and many other articles. The amber beads were originally, and are now internally, wholly of a deep red colour, such as is now very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain; externally, from chemical decomposition arising from moisture, or from some other unknown cause, the mode of the agency of which, even were the cause known, it might be difficult to explain, the amber has totally lost its colour, and presents to the eye an external opaque coating of a yellowish colour; this cause, whatever it may be, pervades in its effect the perforation throughout the bead itself. It may not be improper to add, that the figure of the bead (Plate IV.) presenting the appearance of the divided half of a spherical bead, is entire, being hemi-

spherical only with its perforation passing through in a curve in and out on its plane side; when originally strung, the convex side of this species of bead was consequently placed outwards. The bone instruments and the amber beads are represented of their real size. As iron is never found, it proves that the use of it was then unknown; gold ornaments are sometimes, but very rarely discovered, and from the great tenuity of the plate of this metal, it appears that it was extremely scarce amongst them; the plates, of whatever form, whether plane or convex, it may be inferred from a slender lapping over of the metal on the under side, were originally strengthened by corresponding plates of wood; in one or two instances small hollow cones, and globes, of the same metal, and like thinness, have been found, and which even yet have retained within their cavities strengthening cones, and bosses, of ebony: these and many other ornaments are too nicely worked to be regarded as having been formed by ancient British artists, and may be considered as bartered articles from the Phœnicians, or some other trading people, among whom the arts had made considerable progress, and whose vessels may have occasionally visited this country. The Urns in general appear of a rude form; some of them have undergone the action of strong fire, and others, from the circumstance that apparently they are hardened only by exposure to the beams of the sun, are regarded as the more ancient; in general also, the form of the latter is

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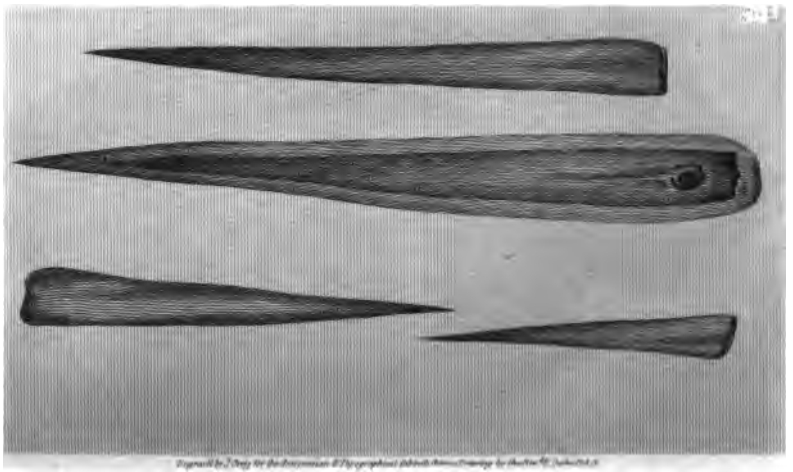
Pl 3.



more rude, and the external ornaments are not so well done; the matter of which they are formed, appears also to differ; the urns which are well baked, and whose external form and ornaments bespeak a more recent formation, are made of a purer clay, but the unbaked urns, more rude in form and ornaments, and therefore considered as the more ancient, are formed from a coarser clay, much intermingled with small pebbles and grit. A small kind of urn is also found (denominated by antiquaries, for the sake of distinction, drinking cups) which is deposited with skeletons; these are always empty, and are generally placed either at the head or feet of the interred persons.

"You will now allow me to say a few words on the formation of the Barrows; on the manner in which the persons, and various articles, interred in them, are deposited; and on the method of opening them for the purpose of investigation.

"The stratum or vegetable soil in this part of the kingdom is thin, covering a very compact and deep stratum of chalk. The smaller Barrows are generally formed of the vegetable earth, skimmed off from the surface of the surrounding ground; the higher Barrows are for the most part increased in height and bulk, by the addition of a stratum, of several feet in thickness, of chalk, and are usually surmounted by a thin covering of mould. The Barrows vary in height, from one or two to fourteen feet, and are usually of proportionate diameter. It ap-

pears, on the investigation of the Barrows, that the deposit was sometimes made in a cist, or grave, sunk into the compact chalk stratum, which is generally found to be about five feet in length, three in breadth, and one or two in depth; in a few instances, from the visible remains of decayed wood around the sides of the cists, it is proved, that the deposits made in them were enclosed in cases of wood; sometimes the deposit appears to have been placed on the level superficies of the ground, and the Barrow raised centrically around and over it; and at other times a discovery of the deposit has been made within the body of the Barrow. More often the human bones, ashes, and whatever articles accompany them, are found in a cist; therefore, in the investigation of a Barrow, although a deposit may be found in the higher part of it, yet the workmen should always proceed down to its floor, to discover whether or not there be a cist, as discoveries have been often made both in the higher and lower parts of the same Barrow. The persons interred have been more often burned, and their ashes deposited, as skeletons have not been so often found; when they are so, sometimes not more than one or two are discovered in a Barrow, oftentimes a greater number, but rarely so many as six or eight: they appear to have been lain within the Barrow in the form of posture in which they died, and no particular attention to have been paid as to their relative position with the cardinal points; their bones are more or less decayed, according as they are deposited within

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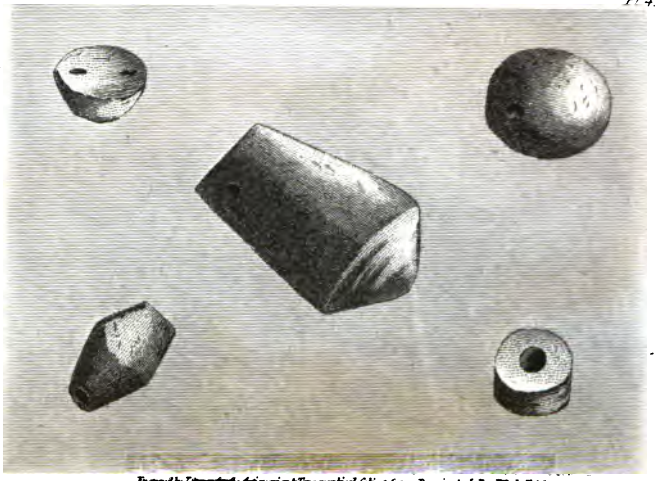
Pl 4.



Engraved by Dixon for the Antiquarian Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by the Rev. E. Duke F.A.S.

Specimens of Amber Beads.

the moist mould or dry chalk; sometimes they are found in the latter in a remarkably fine state of preservation, as I have several times seen skulls fully entire, with their teeth and enamel not in the least decayed.

"Their bones in general prove, that this early race of men was of the modern stature, and only two instances have occurred to me, that any thing very particular has been observable in them: the first instance was a most singular conformation of the skull of a skeleton found in a Barrow opened in the year 1807; its great peculiarity consisted in the very short width of the os frontis between the superior margin of the orbits of the eyes and the coronal suture, so that, from the very high relative situation of the eyes, this person in his life-time must have appeared to have little or no forehead; the lower vertebra of the back bone, or the os coccygis, of the same skeleton, was also protruded backwards to a very extraordinary degree: the other instance occurred in a Barrow opened last summer, in which several vertebræ of the backbone of a skeleton were singularly conjoined by an ossification; the bones of this skeleton were also of an unusual size.

"The only appearance of system to be found on the investigation of these sepulchral tumuli is the fact, that the deposit is invariably made in the centre of the circumference, so that a perpendicular shaft sunk from the apex, or supreme point, of the Barrow, and of a size proportionate to that of the Barrow, rarely fails of bringing to light its contents.

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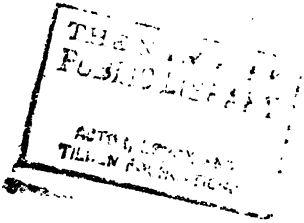
"There are often found dispersedly in the Barrows bones of animals, such as fragments of stags' horns, horses' teeth, fowls' bones, &c. these are found in small quantities only, and are probably some remains of animals sacrificed to the manes of the defunct at the time of interment. I have in my possession some fragments of stags' horns found in a Barrow opened by me in 1806, of so large a size, that they must have belonged to some species now extinct in these islands, probably the moose deer.

"I must now conclude this long letter with observing, in answer to those ‡ who urge the inutility of investigations of this nature, that, although such researches from the detached nature of the documents cannot be made the basis of system, yet they discover to us the state of the arts amongst a people inhabiting our country at a very remote period, and develope to us the modes of sepulture made use of by them; objects, the attainment of the knowledge of which is surely interesting to an inquisitive mind, which is usually more gratified in its acquisitions of the discovery of facts before surrounded with difficulties, presenting effectual impediments to explanation, or enveloped in the mists of time.

"Yours, &c. EDWARD DUKE."

‡ "The question of *Cui bono?* is often applied by the fastidious, the slothful, and the ignorant, to those researches of the human mind, which do not appear to them to be of immediate service to mankind; but let it be impressed on the minds of such cavillers, that the departments of science are illustrated by each other, and connected together by inseparable links, and that if the mental pursuits of those who seek for information could be effectually repressed by the frivolous stumbling-block of these objectors, the knowledge of men must ere long become negative, and the human race involved in one general and deplorable state of ignorance."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Ancient Knife Handle.

Engraved & Published by J. Storer, from a Drawing by the Rev.d E.d Duke, Nov.r 1.st 1811.

ANCIENT KNIFE HANDLE, LAKE,

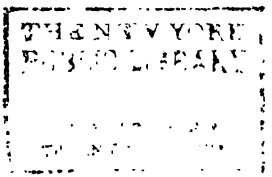
WILTSHIRE.

THE estate and manor of Lake is situated in the small parish of Wilsford and Lake, near Amesbury, and is the property of the rev. Edward Duke. The house is a beautiful specimen of the style of architecture used in the reign of Elizabeth, which is generally supposed to have been adopted in compliment to her, as partaking of the shape of the initials of her name. On the downs attached to the estate are many barrows, which having been investigated were found to contain a great variety of British antiquities.

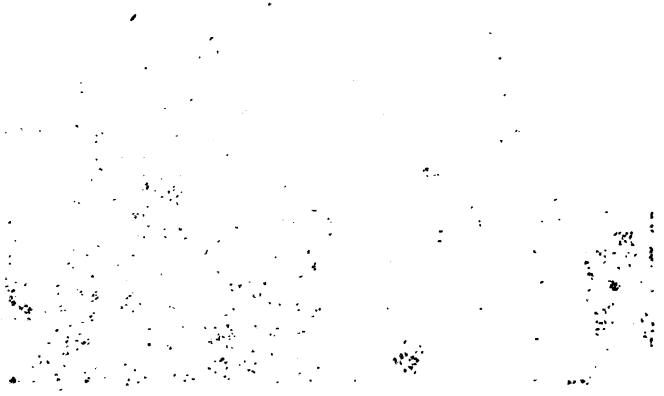
In the year 1770, an accidental discovery was made of a deposit of silver coin within a bank behind the garden wall of Lake house; the coins were sixty-seven in number, and of the reigns of Henry V. and Richard III. they were placed loosely on each other in piles, and covered with the earth; and about the same period, eighteen shillings of the reign of Elizabeth were found beneath the roots of a large tree, which was blown down on the estate; by whom, or on what occasion such a deposit was made, it is useless to conjecture.

In the month of June in the present year, 1811, as a servant was at work near the above-mentioned wall,

he found the curious and antique article, which is represented in the Plate of its real size, and consists of two figures, a warrior and a female ; it was probably the haft of a small knife or dagger, and is now used by its owner as the handle of a penknife, a blade having been affixed to it. This curious article is made of brass, and considering its great antiquity, is in good preservation ; the features of the figures are the parts mostly injured by wear ; the female holds in the right hand a small bag or purse, the custom of carrying which fell into disuse in the days of Elizabeth. This ancient haft is however most likely of an age considerably anterior to her reign, and from the costume in general, and the simple cross hilt of the sword attached to the warrior's side, it may not unjustly claim a date coeval with the crusades.



Abbey Church, Bath.



BATH ABBEY CHURCH,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

FULLER has given the following quaint account of the origin and history of this fabric. "It was begun by Oliver King, bishop of this diocese, in the reign of Henry VII. and the west end most curiously cut and carved with angels climbing up a ladder to heaven: but the bishop died before the finishing thereof. His death obstructed this structure so, that it stood a long time neglected, which gave occasion to one or two to write on the Church wall, with charcoal,

'O Church, I wail thy woful plight!
'Whom *King* nor *Cardinal*, *Clark* nor *Knight*,
'Have yet restored to ancient right.'

Alluding herein to bishop King, who began it, and his four successors in thirty-five years—viz. cardinals Adrian and Wolsey, bishop Clark and bishop Knight, contributing nothing to the effectual finishing thereof. The decay and almost ruin thereof followed, when it felt the hammers which knocked down all abbies. True it is, the commissioners proffered to sell the Church to the townsmen under 500 marks, but the townsmen fearing if they

bought it so cheap, to be thought to cozen the king, so that the purchase might come under the compass of concealed lands, refused the proffer. Hereupon, the glass, iron, bells, and lead, which last amounted alone to 480 tons, provided for the finishing thereof, were sold, and sent over beyond the seas, if a shipwreck (as some report) met them not on the way. For the repairing thereof collections were made all over the land, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, though inconsiderable: either in themselves, or through the corruptions of others, only honest Mr. Billet (whom I take to be the name of him who was designed to be the executor of the will of William Cecil lord Burleigh) disbursed good sums to the repairing thereof, and a stranger, under a feigned name, took the confidence then to play the poet and prophet on this structure.

'Be blithe, fair Kirck, when Hempe is past,
'Thine Olive, that ill winds did blast,
'Shall flourish green for age to last.'

"By Hempe understand Henry VIII. Edward VI. queen Mary, king Phillip, and queen Elizabeth. The author, I suspect, had a *twang of the cask*, and being parcel popish, expected the finishing of this Church, at the return of their religion; but his prediction was verified in a better sense, when this Church was finished by James Montague, bishop of this see."

COLSTON'S SCHOOL, BRISTOL,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

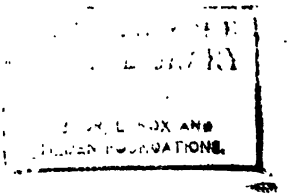
THIS building is erected on the site of the Carmelite priory, as is proved by several very ancient arches of that building being still extant. This friary was of large extent, occupying all the ground from the Red Lodge and garden, down the hill, to St. Augustine's Back, now Mr. Edward Colston's School, and was bounded by Pipe Lane on the west, and Steep Street on the east. It was purchased at the dissolution by the corporation of the city, who afterwards, 10th Elizabeth, sold the site to Thomas Chester, esq. The 20th Elizabeth it was in the possession of sir John Young, whose son and heir, Robert Young, of Haselborough, in the county of Wilts, sold this house, 28th March 1599, then newly built, and occupied by sir John Young's widow, to Nicholas Strangeways, of Bradly, in the county of Gloucester, esq. Queen Elizabeth, on coming to Bristol, kept her court and held a council at this house; and it was the usual residence of the nobility visiting this city. In 1642 it was inhabited by sir Ferdinando Gorges, and was offered by him for entertaining the marquis of Hertford here at that time. It was afterwards purchased by Mr. Lane, and converted into a

sugar-house, and occupied as such till the pious and charitable Mr. Colston, in the year 1708, bought it, to erect a School for a master, two ushers, and 100 boys, to be clothed, maintained, and instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, from seven until fourteen years of age, when they are to be placed out apprentices, he allowing £10 to each at their going out.

The expense of erecting and endowing this School, completely finished by him in his life-time, was £40,000. The estates, in land and ground-rents, he gave for endowing it, produced then £1318 : 15 : 6 *per annum*; and the charge of fitting up the School and dwelling-house, &c. amounted to about £11,000. Out of the estate a clergyman is to be paid £10 *per annum*, for instructing the boys in the church catechism. He also gave, at his death, to continue twelve years after it, £100 *per annum*, either to those who had been apprenticed from the hospital of St. Augustine's Back, or for the apprenticing of boys from Temple's school, by ten pounds each, the charge about £1200.

Colston's School, Bristol.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, New Bond Street and J. Carpenter, Old Bond Street, Feb.1. 1811.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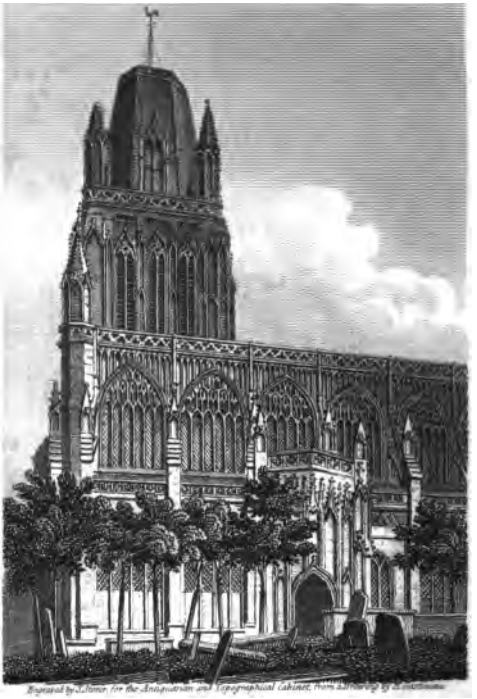
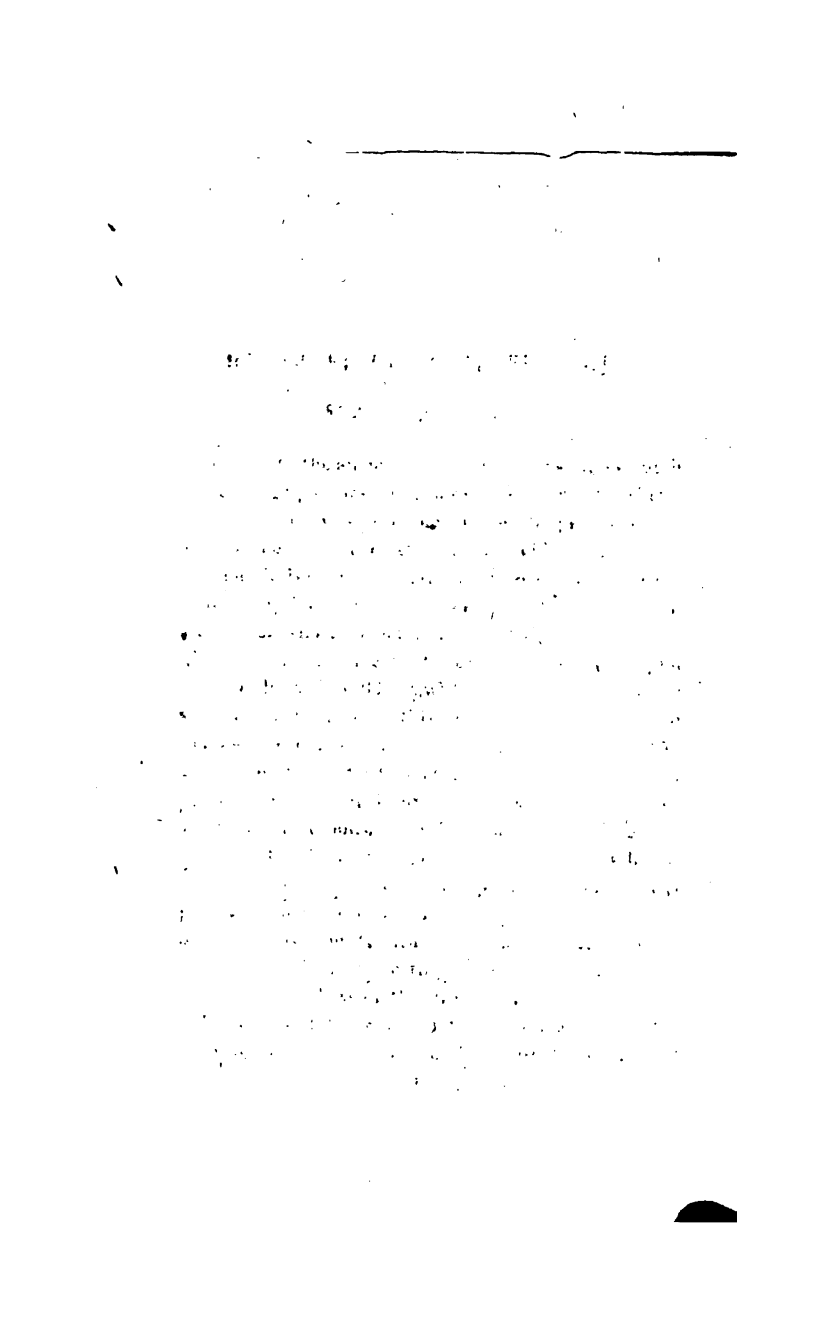


Engraved by J. Storer for the Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet, from a Drawing by the Publishers.

Tower of Redcliff Church, Bristol.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, New Bond St. and J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. Oct.1.1810.



REDCLIFF CHURCH, BRISTOL,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

ACCORDING to the ancient chronicles of Bristol, a Church was standing upon this site prior to the year 1207, which, tending to ruin, was taken down, and the present structure, to the honour of the Blessed Virgin, began by sir Simon de Burton, about the year 1294, who dying before its completion, the work was carried on by William Cannynges, who gave lands to repair it for ever. This William Cannynges was six times mayor of Bristol, and lived till the year 1396, at which time the Church was probably finished. But this structure, erected at so much cost, suffered great damage by lightning in 1445: the lofty spire was thrown down, and falling upon the body of the Church, injured it so much that it appeared almost ruinous. The Church was afterwards repaired by the successors of the abovenamed William, who observed nearly the original plan in rebuilding and repairing, though the south aisle, where the mischief fell heaviest, is rebuilt, with a more elevated arch and in a lighter style than the north; there is also a difference between the windows of the two aisles.

This Church has received the approbation and applause of the best judges of architecture: though large

and spacious, it has a light and airy appearance; the pillars supporting the roof are neat and slender, and the whole sufficiently ornamented, yet not crowded with little parts and mean decorations. The roof, being a solid arch of freestone, is lofty and grand: it is adorned, at the intersection of the ribs of the several little arches, with curious twists and knots, scarcely two of which are alike. Over this roof is one of wood, supporting the exterior covering of lead.

The Church is built on a red sandy rock, or cliff, from which it derives its name. The ascent to this stately structure, on the north-west side, is by steps, most of them being eighteen feet long, sufficient to admit twelve men abreast: they were new laid with Purbeck stone, in 1753, and ornamented with a rail and a handsome balustrade of freestone; as is also the western side of the Churchyard. The whole building is in length, including the Lady Chapel, 239 feet, and from north to south of the great cross aisles is 117 feet: the breadth of the cross aisles is forty-four feet. The roof is supported by twelve pillars on each side of the body of the Church, and eight on each side of the cross aisles. The workmanship throughout is so exquisite, that it may be esteemed one of the most elegant parish churches in England. The tower is in height about 148 feet, being an excellent landmark for the neighbouring parts: it contains eight bells, cast in 1762. The entrance to the church is on the west, through

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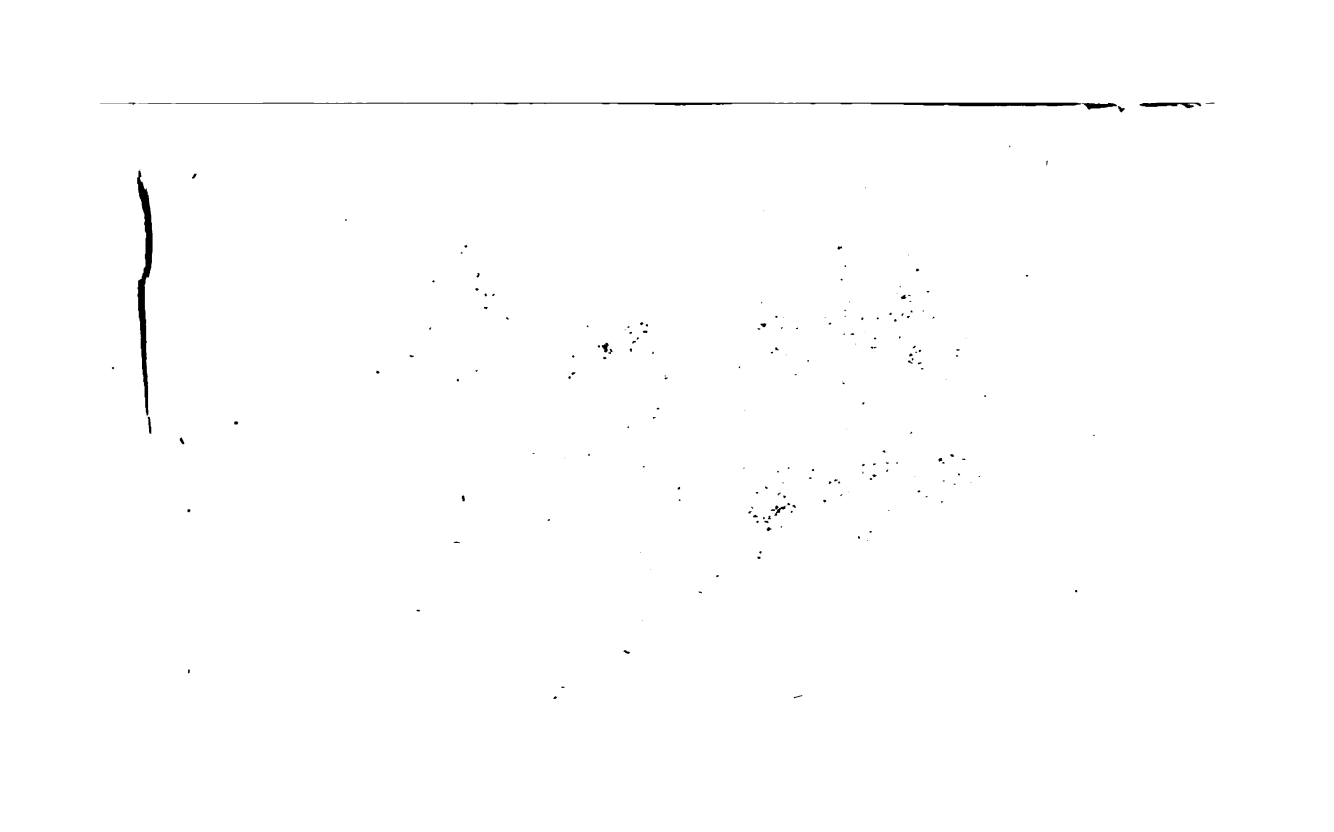
S. Transcept, Redcliff Church, Bristol.

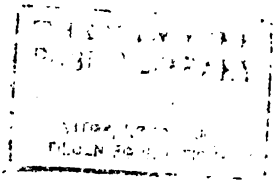


a door eight feet broad and twelve in height, ascended to by a flight of steps. On entering, the view is very grand and impressive, the long extent of the body of the Church appearing still more protracted by the height and slenderness of the pillars. There are two lesser doors, one on the north the other on the south side of the Church: over each is a large porch, with a room above. The north door was designed to be the grand entrance, being full of niches for figures. Here was formerly an image of the Virgin, decorated with a "fyne clothe, with frynge, to cover her."

In the year 1709 the Church was new pewed, and otherwise beautified, at which time the altar-piece was taken down and a new one erected, ornamented with curious paintings, representing Moses with his rod, Aaron in his robes, St. Peter and St. Paul, with other decorations. In 1757, the altar being repaired, three fine paintings were put up, executed by Hogarth: the middle piece, which is much the largest, represents the Ascension of our Saviour, who is seen high in the air: the emanations of rays from the ascending Deity, beaming through the interstices of the surrounding clouds, is managed with tenderness and delicacy: the point of time which the painter has chosen is immediately after he has disappeared to the spectators below. In the fore-ground, on the right side, St. Thomas is represented on one knee, and, with hands clasped and lifted up, is still eagerly looking upwards, with an

expression of wonder and adoration. On the other side is St. Peter, in a reclining posture. Towards the middle is St. John, who, with a group of figures, supposed to be the other disciples, is listening to the two men in white, which appeared upon that great occasion. The back-ground is shut up with rocks, and the bottom of the cloudy mass, excepting on one side, where, under the skirts of the low hanging clouds, part of the city of Jerusalem is seen: a long flash of lightning, casting a livid gloom over it, seems to portend its speedy destruction. The side piece, on the right-hand of this picture, represents the rolling of the stone to close the sepulchre, and the sealing of it in presence of the high-priest. The labour and exertion naturally expressed in the strong muscular men is happily contrasted by the elegant softness of the female figures in the other side-piece, which are the three Marys at the sepulchre.

The Church is adorned with a great number of monuments, some of them highly enriched with Gothic carving.



Stone Cross Lundary Will, Somersetshire.

Published for the Proprietors, [illegible] Bond Street, Carpenter Old Bond Street, [illegible]

STONE CROSS, DUNDARY HILL,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

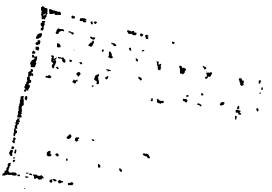
THE hill upon which this Cross is erected commands a great extent of country, rich in cultivation, and interesting from its various other beauties.

"The bursting prospect spreads immense around,
And snatch'd o'er hill, and dale, and wood, and lawn,
And verdant field, and dark'ning heath between,
And villages embosom'd soft in trees,
And spiry towns by surging columns mark'd
Of household smoke, your eye excursive roams."

Clifton in the Valley forms a grand and striking object, as does Ashton Court, and the expanse of ocean which bounds the scene.

The Cross, from its elevated situation, affords a landmark for mariners. Its form is octangular, and consits of a shaft, tapering as it ascends; the upper part is curiously ornamented, and nearly resembles a lanthorn; this is headed with a large stone, which is likewise sculptured; the bottom of the shaft is strengthened by four small butments. It stands upon a large basement, with bold ornamented projections on four of its sides; the alternate

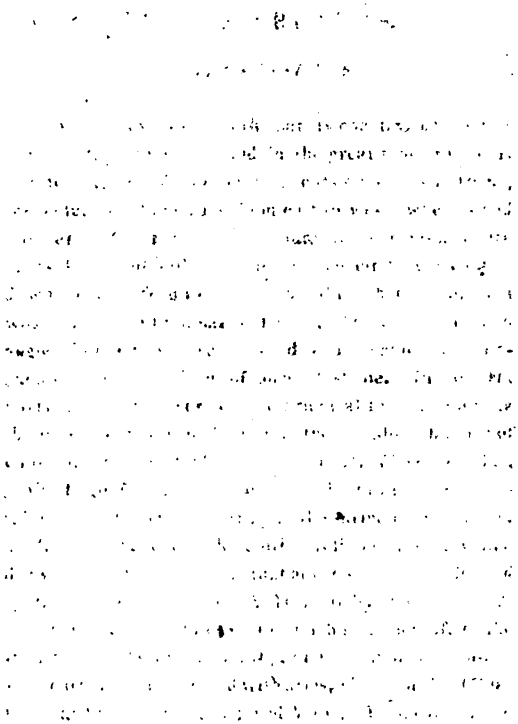
faces have oblong recesses, filled with a pointed arch and two trefoil heads, having the appearance of a window filled up. On each side of the mullion is a shield; these shields probably contained the armorial bearings of the founder of the Cross, but they are now so injured by time, that no traces of sculpture can be discerned; the whole rests upon four steps, the lower one having a projecting fillet.



Engraved by L. Smith for the Antiquarian Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by E. Nash

Glastonbury Cross Somersetshire.

Published for the Proprietor by W. Clarke Bond Street Jan 1, 1809



GLASTONBURY CROSS,

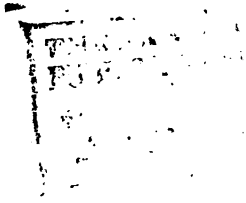
SOMERSETSHIRE.

GLASTONBURY lies in a low marshy country, nearly five miles south from Wells, and in the great road from that city to Exeter. It principally consists of two streets, the chief of which runs from east to west, where stood the market Cross, which was a large and curious structure of its kind, but falling to decay, has lately been taken down. The shaft in the centre ran through the roof, and was surmounted by a naked figure; the columns at each angle of the Cross were clustered, and the gables had pinnacles rising from them of unusual shape. In different parts of the Cross were carved armorial bearings; among these were the arms of R. Beere, the last abbot but one of Glastonbury, who died in the year 1524. The George inn, in the High Street, was formerly an hospital for the entertainment of pilgrims resorting to the shrine of St. Joseph of Arimathea, and to those other religious relics, which drew such a number of itinerant devotees to this hallowed spot. This house was given, A. D. 1490, by abbot Selwood, together with two closes on the north side thereof, to the then chamberlain of the abbey. The front of the house is very curiously ornamented with arms, niches, and entablatures, and is seen in the annexed View. Under this house

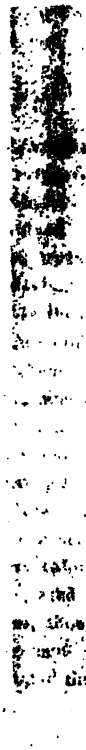
is a vault which leads to the abbey, so low that a man must crawl on his knees to pass it; but there are benches, or little narrow places, to rest the elbows on, in order to ease the knees. It comes out into a large vaulted place, used for a cellar, and, after about five or six paces, turns aside to the right into another passage, high enough for a man to walk upright; this passage is about five or six paces long, and leads to a flight of steps which conducted privately to the abbot's chamber.

In the place of the porter's lodge was erected a good dwelling house, the owner of which, in the last century, pulled down an old mantle-piece, and placed it in the street, where it lay for several years. He was once offered three shillings for it, but his price being three shillings and fourpence, the bargain was declined; at length his daughter, having occasion to build a small chamber, directed the mantle-piece to be sawed into pieces for stairs; when, in a private hole, which had been purposely made in it, was found near a hundred pieces of gold, of the time of Richard II. and Edward III. of the value of about eleven shillings each.

The town of Glastonbury comprehends two parishes (the patronage of both formerly belonged to the abbey), St. John Baptist and St. Benedict, which, within their precincts, contain near 400 houses.



Part of Glastonbury Abbey Somersetshire.



GLASTONBURY ABBEY,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

GLASTONBURY Abbey, according to Camden, derives its origin from Joseph of Arimathea, the same who buried the body of Jesus Christ. Its ancient history is, however, involved in tales of monkish superstition, and though some truth may be conveyed by their visionary legends, historians differ much in their choice of materials: hence the discordancy which so generally prevails. This opinion of its origin is supported by a record preserved in Rymer's Fœdria, of one John Blome, of London, obtaining a license, in the reign of Edward III. dated Westminster, June 10, 1345, to go to the monastery of Glastonbury, and dig for the corpse of St. Joseph, according to a divine revelation which he reported he had on that subject. Most accounts agree that Joseph of Arimathea, with some adherents, having arrived in Britain, to preach the Christian faith, settled on a part of the island then under the regal government of Arviragus, who, though not converted himself, gave great encouragement to the endeavours of these holy men, and granted them lands on which they established their community, and enclosed themselves with wattles or hurdles. They afterwards erected a place of worship with the

same rude materials: this church, if it deserves the name, was, according to the legend, consecrated by Christ himself, who dedicated it to the honour of his mother. The successors of Arviragus perceiving the good effects of Christianity on the manners of their subjects, confirmed and added to the immunities conferred by their predecessor. After the death of Joseph and his fraternity, every member of which, as some relate, lies interred here, Christianity began to decline, and was soon nearly forgotten.

It was revived again by king Lucius, who being desirous to obtain a knowledge of the tenets of Christianity, applied to pope Eleutherius for instruction, who sent to him two preachers, Phaganus and Diruvianus, who finding the chapel built by Joseph, obtained a grant of it from the king. Here they settled with twelve of their disciples, and continued their residence in a retired monastic way for many years; till in process of time the society came under the government of St. Patrick, the Irish apostle, who was their first abbot, and introduced among them a more exact discipline. St. Dunstan afterwards was the superior of this Abbey, and here it was that he took the devil by the nose, "wyth a payre of tongues of yren brenninge hote." This Abbey was liberally endowed by king Ina, who built the great church, likewise by Edward the elder, Edred, Edgar, and other Saxon kings and nobles; at the conquest it was stripped of many of its possessions, by William, who in the year

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Part of S.t Joseph's Chapel, Glastonbury, Somersetshire.

Published [illegible] by W.m Clark, Bond street, Bristol.

1083 made one Turstin, a Norman, abbot thereof. The Conqueror restored again many of its possessions, and confirmed them by his own grant.

Between the years 1116 and 1120, the church was rebuilt by abbot Herelwinus, Turstin's successor. In 1184, the monastery was consumed by fire, after which Ralph Fitzstephens, chamberlain to Henry II. began and nearly completed a new church, and the offices of the house, which were perfected by the abbot Henry de Saliaco, in whose time the tomb of king Arthur was discovered in the cemetery. On the faith of several ancient songs or ballads, which recorded Arthur's being buried in this place, search was made, and about seven feet below the surface of the ground a stone was discovered, with a rude leaden crucifix attached to it, on which was a Latin inscription in barbarous characters, thus Englished:—"Here lies buried the famous king Arthur in the Isle of Avalonia." About nine feet below this monumental stone was found a coffin, hollowed out of the solid oak, containing the bones of a human body, supposed to be that of king Arthur: these, by the care of the abbot, were translated into the church, and covered with a magnificent tomb. At the time of the suppression, Richard Whiting was abbot, a man of great piety and learning, venerable for his age and irreproachable life. The commissioners of Henry were not able to prevail with this abbot to surrender his monastery, and the king, who was not easily to be diverted from his purposes, soon procured

his death. Henry never failed, in the accomplishment of his views, to wade through the most sanguinary means, if he judged them necessary to the attainment of his end; but these acts of barbarity were always masked under the forms of law and justice. It was pretended that Whiting had written a book against the king's divorce; he was ordered to London, and during his absence his cabinets were searched, and the offensive instrument discovered, probably by those who had introduced it for the purpose of colouring the king's intention: he was condemned for high treason, and dragged upon a hurdle to the top of the high hill which overlooks the monastery; there, in his monk's habit, he was hanged, afterwards quartered, his head set upon the Abbey gate, and his other parts sent to Bath, Wells, Ilchester, and Bridgwater.

The revenues belonging to the Abbey were valued at £3508: 13: 4¼. The site was granted by Edward VI. to Edward duke of Somerset, and afterwards by Elizabeth to sir Peter Carew.

In an adjacent orchard stands the decayed trunk of the famous hawthorn, so well known by the name of the Glastonbury thorn, and by its peculiar quality of blowing at Christmas. Though the tale of its displaying its bloom in particular on old Christmas day is now justly derided, yet it is the natural property of the tree to bloom about that time and most of the winter; and though curious in this country, it is said to be common in the Levant and Asia Minor.

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S.t Joseph's Chapel, Glastonbury Abbey, Somersetshire.

[illegible] ABBEY,

[illegible]

[illegible] in [illegible] Abbey, [illegible] given in [illegible] this [illegible]

[illegible] side of the [illegible] to Bridges [illegible] by a high wall [illegible]

[illegible] plot [illegible] Abbey [illegible] erected, comprised [illegible] sixty [illegible] church [illegible] 155 [illegible] was 116 [illegible] the floor [illegible] built, hav- [illegible] passage leading to [illegible] has [illegible] considerable way. Under [illegible] there were three large vaults, [illegible] by two rows [illegible] strong massive pillars in which

GLASTONBURY ABBEY,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

The following particulars relative to Glastonbury Abbey, are in addition to the description already given in a former part of this Work:

"This Abbey was situated on the south side of the High Street of Glastonbury, leading from Wells to Bridgewater, and was surrounded on all sides by a high wall of wrought freestone.

"The foundation plot of ground on which the Abbey and its offices were erected, comprised no less than sixty acres within the walls. The nave of the great church, from St. Joseph's Chapel to the cross, was, in length, 220 feet; the choir was 155 feet long; and each transcept forty-five feet in length; the tower was also forty-five feet in breadth. The chapel of St. Joseph of Arimathea, contiguous to the west end of the great church, was 110 feet long, and twenty-four feet broad; under the floor thereof, was a large and handsome sepulchral vault, having at the south-east corner an arched passage leading to the Tor, which has been traced a considerable way. Under the body of the church there were three large vaults, supported by two rows of strong massive pillars, in which

lay entombed many of the most illustrious personages. The cloisters adjoined to the church on the south side, and were a square of 220 feet. The whole church, including the chapel of St. Joseph, was 530 feet in length. It contained five chapels, St. Edgar's, which stood just behind the choir; St. Mary's, in the north aisle; St. Andrew's, in the south aisle; on the north side of the nave, the chapel of Our Lady of Loretto; and, at the south angle, the chapel of the Holy Sepulchre. The floors were inlaid with Norman tile, inscribed with Scripture sentences, and the names of kings and benefactors.

"Of this immense range of buildings scarce a vestige is now to be seen; and all that remains of this once magnificent pile, are some fragments of the church, St. Joseph's chapel, and the abbots' kitchen: the rest is reduced to a heap of rubbish, loading the surface of its site with unseemly ruins. Some of the south walls of the choir are still standing, as are also some pieces of St. Edgar's, St. Andrew's, and the Loretto chapel, with the two east pillars of the tower, and a west arch leading into St. Joseph's chapel: this last-mentioned chapel, except the roof and floor, is pretty entire. It was a most elegant structure, having on each side six windows, under which were very rich compartments of zigzag arches of fine pillars and their spandrils, adorned with roses, crescents, and painted stars."

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FARLEY CASTLE,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE village of Farley is beautifully situated within about six miles of Bath. It was bestowed by William the Conqueror upon one of his followers, at whose death it reverted to the crown, and was given by William Rufus to Hugh de Montfort, a native of Normandy. In the latter years of Henry III. sir Henry de Montfort had his baronial residence at this place, which gave rise to its appellation of Farley Montfort; it afterwards by purchase became part of the possession of Thomas, lord Hungerford, and continued in his family as a chief seat for the space of nearly 300 years: during this period it received many additions and alterations, and was esteemed a fortress of considerable importance. Like the generality of these warlike structures, it has been gradually decaying, and now presents a most romantic scene. Its ruins stand on the northern acclivity of a rocky hill, embowered with oaks, walnut trees, and poplars. It consisted of two courts or wards, lying north and south; the court northward was 180 feet in length from east to west, and 144 feet in breadth from north to south; and was flanked by four round towers sixty feet in height. Each of these towers, the walls of which are five feet thick,

were originally divided into three stories, the apartments lighted by narrow windows and embrasures. The walls of the south-east and south-west towers are still remaining, and beautifully veiled with ivy. More than half also of the north-east tower is still standing: the southern wall being fallen down, the windows and old chimney pieces, interwoven with ivy and wild roses, appear to view. The north-west tower is quite down, as are also almost all the intermediate walls and building, except a small portion of the parapet northward, which overlooks a deep dell, shaded with the thickest wood. In this court stood the great hall and the state apartments, which (if tradition speaks the truth) were not to be equalled in grandeur by any structure in this part of England, being decorated with rich tapestry, exquisite sculpture, and beautiful paintings. The hall was a very large and long apartment, hung round with armour worn by its martial possessors, and spoils brought from Cressy, Poictiers, Agincourt, and Calais. But of these buildings, which towards the close of the last century were nearly entire, the smallest remnant now is not left standing, the whole area of the court being rudely strewed with the ruins, which lie in heaps, covered with weeds and luxuriant herbage. A large gateway led from this to the southern court, in which were the offices, stables, store-houses, and guard rooms; the principal entrance was on the east side, through an embattled gate-house, the shell of which is still standing; before it there was formerly a draw-bridge

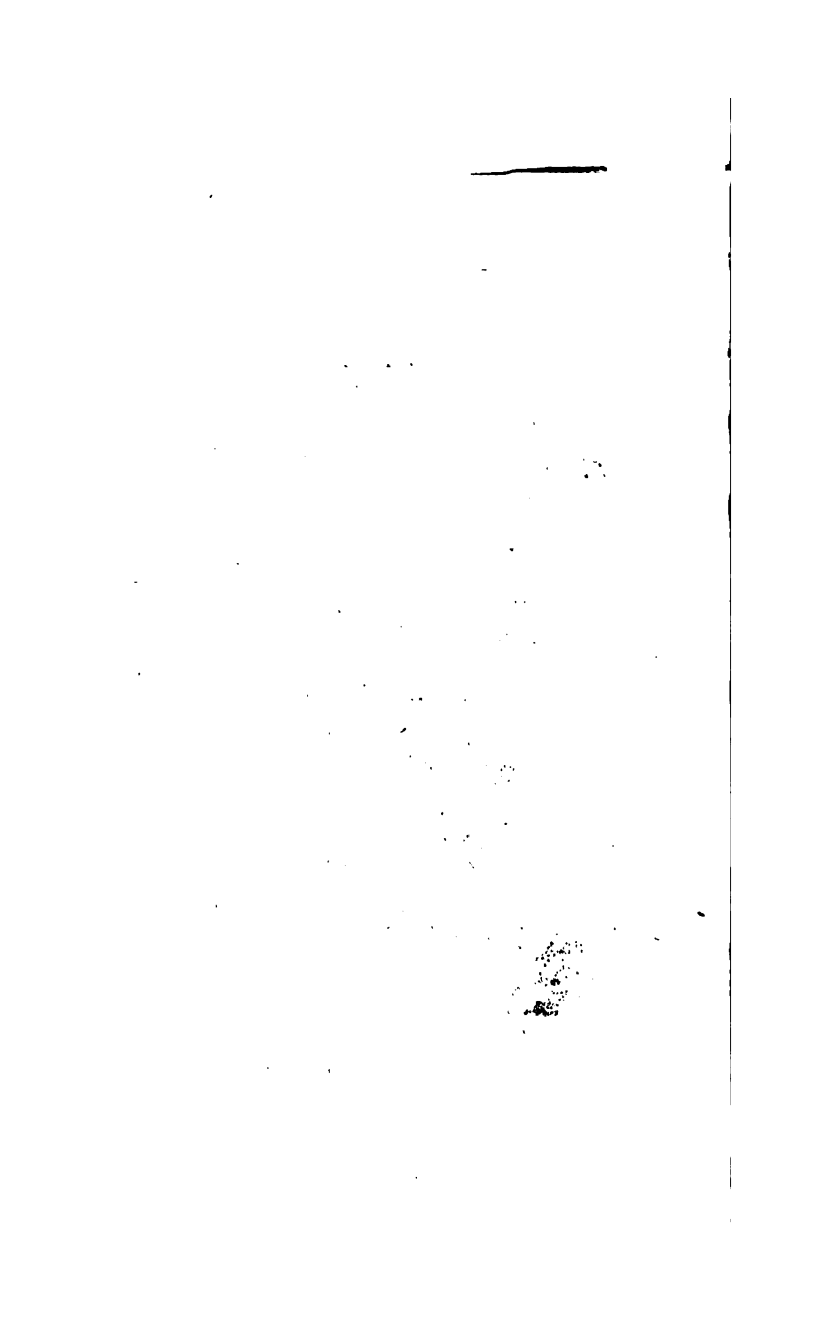
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.

over a deep moat, which surrounded the whole castle; the holes through which the pullies of the bridge passed are still visible in the gateway wall, and over the arch are the arms and crest of the Hungerfords, richly sculptured in the stone. On the eastern side of this court stands the chapel, to which there is a descent of several steps; this building has of late years been repaired; it consists of a nave and chantry chapel on the north side, the former fifty-six feet in length, and nineteen and a half in breadth; the latter twenty feet in length, and fourteen in breadth. The altar slab is of rich granite: against the south wall stands the old pulpit, and underneath it are several pieces of armour, such as a head-piece, breast-plate, with a saddle, brought hither in an old chest from the castle hall before the time of its demolition. Behind the chapel stands the old habitation of lord Walter Hungerford's, two chantry priests, now converted into a dairy; the external walls of this part of the castle retain some of their pristine battlements. In this Castle was born Margaret Plantagenet, daughter of George, duke of Clarence, brother of king Edward IV. This lady was heiress to her brother Edward and to her grandfather Richard Neville, earls of Salisbury and Warwick, and was in 1513 created countess of Salisbury by king Henry VIII. She married sir Richard Pole, knt. by whom she had four sons; the youngest of them, Reginald, was the pope's cardinal, by whose political manœuvres, she and her whole family were involved in much difficulty and trouble, and she

was at length beheaded in the Tower of London, May 27, 1541, after having been closely confined two years in prison. Her eldest son Henry Pole, lord Montague, had suffered the same fate before her in 1538.

The village of Farley is but small, containing about twenty families; the living is rectorial, in the deanery of Frome. In 1292 this rectory was rated at eight marks nine shillings and fourpence; the abbot of Cirencester receiving out of it an annual pension of 4*s*. The parish church stands on an eminence southward from the Castle, and is of one aisle, ninety-two feet in length and twenty-four in breadth. At the west end is a small tower, containing five bells.

Nunney Castle, Somersetshire.



NUNNEY CASTLE,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

The De la Meres were very early possessors of the manor of Nunney, near Frome, in Somersetshire; and in the thirteenth century erected a Castle, which now stands a fine vestige of antiquity. Its form is a double square, with a round tower at each corner: upon these towers are four turrets, mostly covered with ivy, as also are the upper parts of some of the towers, on the tops of which are several ash trees and shrubs rising above the broken walls, and giving a picturesque effect to the desolated grandeur of the edifice. An elliptical moat, twenty feet wide and ten deep, surrounded the Castle, but is now almost filled with weeds and rubbish: it communicates with the river, and formerly had an embattled wall round it twelve feet high. In the civil wars this Castle was garrisoned for the king, but was taken by the parliamentary forces in 1645; the effects of the siege are visible on the north-west side of the building. The interior is now completely in ruins, and presents a fine picture of its former splendour.

"———— The mouldering walls
Black with the rust of age, and all within

Silence and waste, while not a sound is heard
But the wind moaning; not a form beheld,
Save one, that fancy images to the mind;
The spirit of *Destruction!*"

Of the De la Mere family there were four branches, who were severally seated in the counties of Wilts, Oxford, Hereford, and Somerset. Nicholas De la Mere was lord of Nunney in the time of Henry III.; and was succeeded by another Nicholas who lived here in the time of Edward I. and had several children, of whom Elias De la Mere was a great warrior, and was the first projector of the Castle. He died about the second Richard II. leaving issue sir Thomas De la Mere, knt. who, in the seventh of Henry IV. gave lands in Kingston St. Michael, in the county of Wilts, to the abbey of Bradenstoke in the same county. He married two wives, Joan and Margaret: by the former he was father of sir Peter De la Mere, knt. whose estate amounted (as we are told by Leland) to 1200 marks *per annum*. He was father of Richard De la Mere, who sold lands in Nunney to Andrew Braunche, of Frome, and dying without issue male, was succeeded in his estate by his uncle sir John De la Mere, knt. by Margaret, the second wife of Thomas, his grandfather. This John was lord of Nunney in the forty-sixth of Edward III. His son John De la Mere was sheriff of the county of Wilts in the first of Rich. II. and then bore on his seal two lions passant. This John

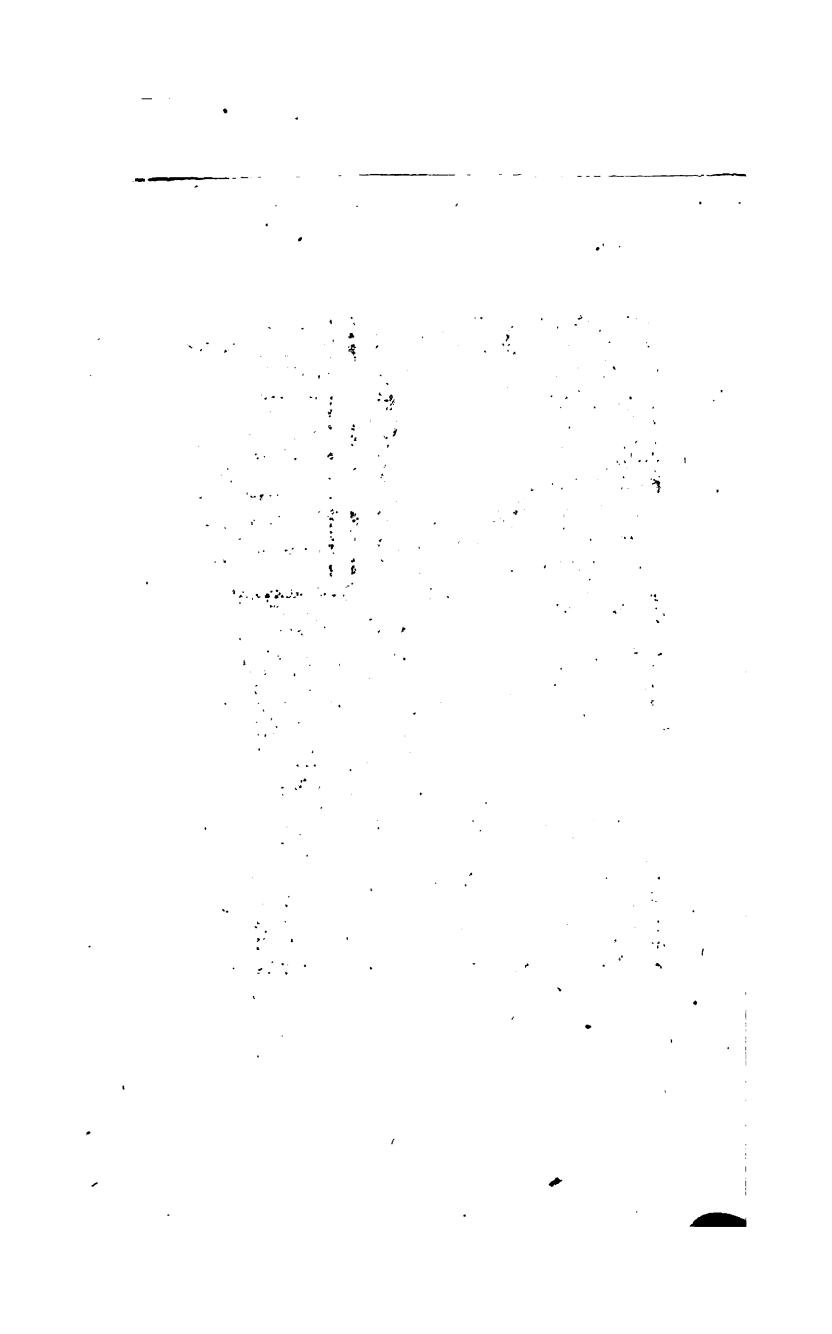
and his younger brother Jaques finished the Castle, embellishing it with spoils brought from abroad, which had been won in the wars of France. Philip De la Mere his son succeeded to the manor, and was father of several children; of whom sir Elias De la Mere, knt. was sheriff of Wilts in the second of Henry V. but died without issue; but Eleanor, his eldest sister, became heiress to the whole estate lying in Somersetshire. This Eleanor was married to William Paulet, esq. serjeant at law, second son to sir John Paulet, of Melcombe, in this county. He died in 1435. By this marriage Nunney Castle came into the family of Paulet, and the grandson of the pair was the celebrated William Powlett, the first marquis of Winchester.

But the chief manor of Nunney, after having for many ages continued in the families of Delamere and Powlet, passed in the time of Henry VII. into other hands. In the twenty-fourth of that reign sir Richard Mawdley, knight of the Bath, died seized of the manor of Nunney. The name of Mawdley occurs in the parish register from the year 1545 to 1674. From them the manor came to the Sambornes, and after them to the family of Whitchurch, by whom it was left by will to James Theobald, of Waltham Place, in the county of Berks, esq. and in whose family it now remains.

TOMBS OF THE DE LA MERE FAMILY, IN NUNNEY CHURCH.

The Tombs, of which we have given a Plate, belong to the family of sir John De la Mere, knt. and were a short time since in good preservation: they were adorned with escutcheons on the side and end. The nearest tomb contained five, two of which are illegible. The other three are, 1. Quarterly, first and fourth four mullets; second and third two lions rampant, addorsed. 2. In chief a lion couchant, in base three wolves' heads erased. 3. A gate. Upon this tomb lie the effigies of a knight in armour, with his lady by his side. On the other are two similar effigies: the man has a military belt and sword, and on his breast a shield or coat charged with a lion couchant. The lady is attired in a loose veil or robe flowing from her head, and open before. At the top are a key and lion intermingled; the arms, 1. Quarterly, first and fourth, three daggers in pile, Poulet: second and third, two lions, De la Mere. 2. Two lions couchant gardant. Arms on the south side. 1. In chief two mullets. 2. Quarterly, first and fourth, barry of ten, over all a bendlet, impaling two lions statant. 3. As one, impaling a lion erect. 4. Two lions erect. 5. A lion erect impaling three anchors.

We are sorry to learn from Mr. Crocker, of Frome (who communicated this article to us), that *modern innovation* has removed these ancient Tombs to an obscure corner of the church, for the purpose of erecting a pew!!



Engraved by J. Greig, from a drawing by E. Crocker, for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet.

Tombs of the De La Mere's, Nunney Ch. Somersetshire.

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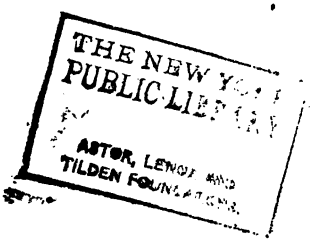
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Door way of Pen Church Somersetshire

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, New Bond Street & J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. May 1.1821.

THE SAXON DOOR-WAY OF PEN CHURCH,

SOMERSETSHIRE.

PEN is a small village on the borders of Somersetshire, near Stourton, at the extremity of that vast tract formerly called Selwood Forest, and is memorable for having been the scene of several bloody conflicts between the Britons and Saxons, and afterwards between the Danes and Saxons, of which the Saxon chronicle particularly records three that happened A.D. 658, 1001, and 1016. The tradition of the last battle, fought by Canute the Dane, with Edmund, probably near the spot on which the Church of Pen was founded, in gratitude, by the victor, seems to be confirmed in the ancient Door-way, the only remaining portion of the original structure, where the heads of two crowned monarchs have been placed as supporters to the arch, which is of the Saxon order, decorated with the usual zigzag ornaments, and a piece of rude emblematical sculpture in the centre.

Adjoining the site of this Church are those singular excavations called *Pen Pits*, evidently the work of human art, which extended over a surface of ground not much short of 700 acres, if we include those nearly filled up in the course of progressive cultivation. These

pits are of various depths, from sixteen to eighteen feet, in form of an inverted cone, unequal in their dimensions, and in some instances double, divided only by a slight partition of earth. The spot they occupy, together with the corresponding portion on the Zeals side of the little river Stour, though nearly levelled, yet retaining faint traces of what it was, appears, at a very early period, to have been cleared from the great forest of Selwood, to be a rendezvous of the population of that age, and continued to later times the capital of that extensive district.

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Engraved & Published by J. Storer from a Drawing by H. Gastineau, Newcastle.

The Cathedral Bristol

THE CATHEDRAL,

BRISTOL.

THE Cathedral or Church of the Holy Trinity at Bristol, is part of the monastery of St. Augustine, which was founded in the year 1140 by sir Robert Fitzharding. It is situated upon a rising ground, commanding a most delightful prospect of the adjacent country. The area which the buildings formerly occupied is very extensive, and shews that this was a most spacious and magnificent monastery. The foundation was for an abbot, prior, sub-prior, and about fourteen friars or canons regular. These, like the generality of monks, were far from observing the sanctity which they professed; for it appears by the visitation of Godfrey, bishop of Worcester, that this abbey was in spiritual matters greatly decayed; he therefore ordered, "that in future they do not as bees fly out of the choir as soon as service is ended; but devoutly wait as become holy and settled persons, not as vagrants and vagabonds; and returning to God due thanks for their benefactors, and so receiving at last the fruits of their religion to which they have specially devoted themselves." And as the present abbot was *not sufficiently instructed* to propound the word of God in common, he appointed others in his stead. The same bishop also

ordered, that in the infirmary food and drink be provided for the sick; and forbid under a curse, that any feign himself sick when he is not so; to live a dissolute life, and fraudulently despise God's worship; nor should the friars that were in health meet in the infirmary for the sake of drinking and surfeiting; also that during their meals they should abstain from detraction and obscene speech, and use words of honesty and good tendency to edify the soul.

This being one of the great abbies, came to the crown by the statue of the thirty-first of Henry VIII. and, according to Speed, was estimated at £767 : 15 : 3 *per annum*. Henry, in the midst of his rapacious career, made a shew of refunding by the erection of six new bishoprics, of which this dissolved monastery was one, and the church of the monks was fixed upon for the Cathedral, though it scarcely escaped the demolition that threatened it, on account of the lead with which it was covered. The work of destruction was already commenced, and after uncasing the roof, the workmen were proceeding quickly to destroy the structure itself, which was in part effected, when an order was sent by the king, signifying that he was informed, that there was yet left standing of the fabric sufficient to make it a Cathedral for the bishop's see. The church being thus deprived of its western part to the tower, consists at present of the choir and two side aisles, with one of the transcepts, making but two parts of its original cross; its

length is now from east to west 175 feet, of which the choir is 100 feet, so that in its perfect state it must have extended 100 feet further: the length of the cross aisle from north to south is 128 feet, the height of the tower 127 feet. It has a singular beauty not to be met with in any other cathedral, namely, that the two side aisles are of equal height with the nave and choir; the breadth of the body and side aisles is seventy-three feet.

The College Green, which fronts the Cathedral, adds much to the beauty of the place; it is laid out in pleasant walks with rows of lime trees, and is the resort of much company, who use it as a promenade; it was formerly the burying-place of the dead, and is called in ancient deeds the cemetery of the abbot and convent, by whom a solemn procession was usually made around it on festival days. On digging up some old trees in the ninth of Henry VII. there was found here tombstones and human skulls. The like discoveries were made while preparing the foundation for houses a few years since.

The centre of the Green was once graced by a handsome cross, which was removed from the High Street hither, for the purpose of rendering the way more commodious for passengers: it remained in this spot for many years, but at length wanting repairs, Mr. Hoar at Stourton, apprehensive of its being neglected, obtained permission to remove it to his beautiful grounds, where it now remains (in the possession of sir Richard Hoar), an ornament much admired.

Among other relics of the monastic buildings is a noble Gate-house adjoining the deanery; it has a large circular arch, containing a number of mouldings so fancifully interwoven with ornament, that it is difficult to trace the design; the arch is supported by beautiful columns. Somewhat of the elegance of this Gateway is abated by an elevation of the ground which has taken place at various times.

Abbey Gate, Bristol.

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Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, New Bond Street, and J. Carpenter, Old Bond Street.

CIRENCESTER,

CIRENCESTER,

GLOCESTERSHIRE.

CIRENCESTER has been a town of some considerable importance, from the remotest period of our annals. At the time of the Roman authority, in this country, it was the metropolis of the Duboni, and the seat of a Roman colony. The eligibility of this spot, for a Roman station, is evinced by the circumstance of the Foss-way, the Irmine-street, and the Icknield-way, all meeting here. Many Roman remains have been discovered here. The present buildings of Cirencester occupy only a part of the ancient city, which was enclosed by a wall and ditch, the circumference of which was upwards of two miles, some remains of the earth-works are yet to be seen.

Cirencester was celebrated for its rich abbey, which arose from a decayed college of prebendaries, instituted in early Saxon times. On the surrender of this abbey, in 1539, its annual revenues were estimated at £1051 : 7 : 4½.

The church at Cirencester, dedicated to St. John, is one of the most magnificent parochial edifices in the kingdom. The regular style of the fifteenth century is prevalent in every part. The coincidence of parts ren-

ders it evident that it was built from an original design, regularly pursued from its commencement, though the arms of the contributors, from their different dates, prove it to have been many years in hand.

The charitable institutions at Cirencester, are, Saint John's Hospital, for poor people, which was founded by Henry I. and is situated on the north side of Glocester Street, over a crypt, with round pillars, now partly buried with earth; St. Lawrence's Hospital, on the south side of Glocester Street, was founded by Edith, lady of the manor of Wiggold, but at what period is unknown, for three poor sisters. St. Thomas's Hospital, situated in St. Thomas's Street, was erected and endowed by sir William Nottingham, attorney-general, in the reign of Henry IV. for four poor weavers.

The manufactures of Cirencester are supposed to be in a declining state. Three fairs are annually held here, and also two *mops*, or statute markets, on the Mondays preceding and following October the 10th; and if that day happens to be on a Monday, it is also a *mop* day. These markets are always very much thronged.

Cirencester is celebrated for the salubrity of its air, and general healthfulness. It consists of four principal and seven less considerable streets, besides several lanes. The population was returned, in 1801, at 4130; the number of houses was 885.

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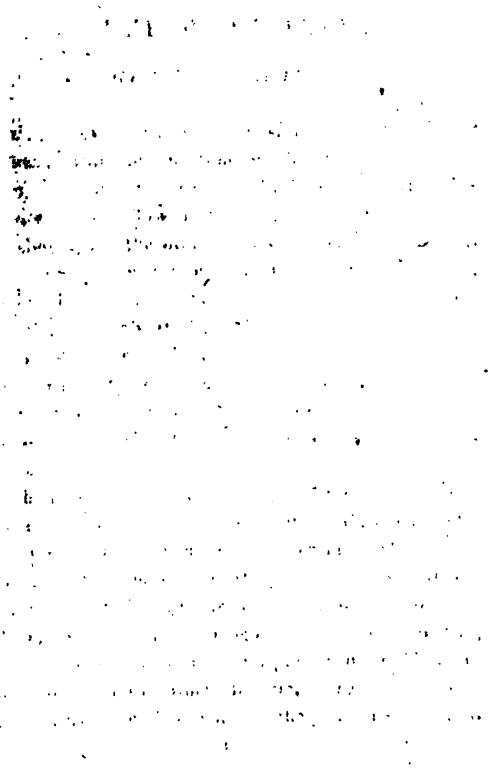
S.E. View of Tewkesbury Church, Gloucestershire.



TEWKESBURY ABBEY,

GLOCESTERSHIRE.

TEWKESBURY is a large town, situated in the vale of Evesham, near the junction of the rivers Avon and Severn, between the streams called the Carron and the Swilgate, which flow into the Avon, the one above Tewksbury, and the other below it. The name of this place is of very uncertain derivation; the most current tradition, however, ascribes its origin to be from Theocus, a hermit, who, about the end of the seventh century, fixed his residence on the banks of the Severn, near this place. The town of Theocus, or Theot, as contracted by the Saxons, was denominated by them Deotisbyrg, or Theot-is-byrg, and in Doomsday Book it is styled Theodechesberie.

The first whose names appear upon record as lords of this manor, are the noble Saxon brothers Odo and Dodo, reputed to have been dukes of Mercia, and to have founded an abbey here about the year 715. They died in the year 725, and were buried at Pershore, in Worcestershire. In the year 800 Hugh, a nobleman of Mercia, appears to have been a principal patron to the Abbey of Tewksbury: in this time Briteric, king of the West Saxons, was buried here; and in the year 812 Hugh, its

patron, was likewise interred in this place. From this time till the year 980 few circumstances relative to this Abbey are related by historians; it was then made an appendage to the abbey at Cranbourn, in Dorsetshire, by Haylward the Fair. His grandson Bithric was afterwards its patron; but on the seizure of his estates by William the Conqueror, as part of the honour of Glocester, it was made the property of the queen. On her death it reverted to the crown, and was granted by William Rufus to Robert Fitz-Hamon, who, at the request of his wife Sybil, and Girald, abbot of Cranbourn, rebuilt the greater part of the monastery and its church, and gave large possessions for its use; indeed, so bountiful were his donations, that he was considered the second founder.

On the death of Fitz-Hamon, his eldest daughter Mabel married Robert, earl of Glocester, natural son to Henry III.; this nobleman was a considerable benefactor to the Abbey. His son and heir William confirmed all the grants made by his ancestors, and by further endowments greatly increased its possessions. Isabel, his youngest daughter, was married to John, duke of Cornwall, afterwards king of England. On his accession to the crown he divorced his wife, alleging her barrenness as a pretence. She shortly afterwards married Geoffrey de Mandeville, earl of Essex; and after the death of Geoffrey, who was killed at a tournament, she was again married to Hugh de Burgh, chief justice of England; but finally dying without issue, the honour of Glocester de-

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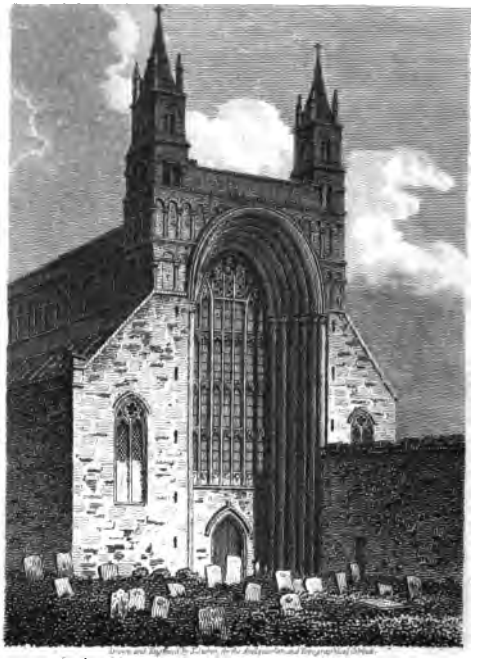
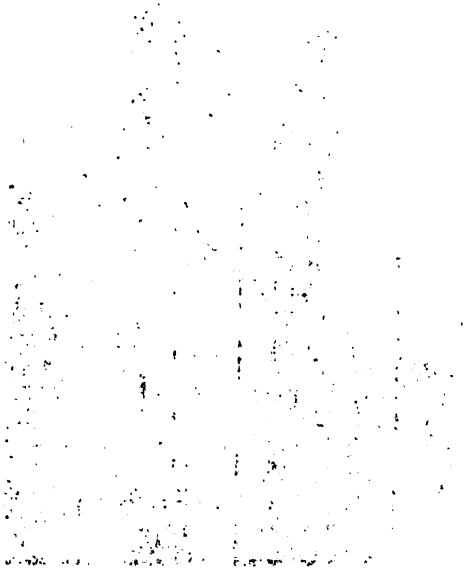


Drawn and Engraved by Lawson for the Antiquarian and Topographical Series.

West End of Tewkesbury Church.

Published for the Proprietors by Wm. Clarke Bond Street Sept. 1st 1807.

[illegible] such disorder, that it was defeated with



scended to Almeric de Montfort, her nephew, who also dying without issue, was succeeded by Gilbert de Clare, who had married Amice, second daughter to the above-named William, earl of Glocester. The lordship of Tewkesbury was given to Eleanor, the eldest daughter of Gilbert de Clare, who married Hugh le Despencer the younger; in this family it continued till the year 1414. It was then conveyed, by the marriage of the heiress Isabel, to Richard Beauchamp, lord Abergavenny, and afterwards earl of Worcester. This nobleman being slain at the siege of Meaux, in 1421, his widow, having procured a dispensation from the pope, married his cousin-german, Richard Beauchamp, third earl of Warwick, whom she survived. This lady contributed largely to the Abbey's possessions, as did her son Henry earl of Warwick; he was succeeded in his estates by his sister Anne, who married Richard Nevil, earl of Salisbury, afterwards created earl of Warwick. This nobleman was an active partisan in the sanguinary contest between the houses of York and Lancaster: he was generally esteemed for his extraordinary valour, and known by the appellation of the stout earl of Warwick; to this martial disposition was added the most obliging deportment, which enabled him to command an almost universal respect. He took part with the duke of York against Henry VI. and in the battle of St. Alban's commanded the vanguard of the army; by the impetuosity of his attack he put the royal army into such disorder, that it was defeated with

the loss of 5000 men: he afterwards defeated the king's troops at Northampton, and made the king his prisoner. This earl was slain bravely fighting for the Lancastrian party, in the battle of Barnet, in the year 1471, having deserted the cause of the house of York. After his death his countess sought her safety in flight; but in consideration of her daughters being the sisters-in-law of Edward IV. that monarch, instead of seizing their inheritance, divided it between them; by this division the manor of Tewkesbury was possessed by Isabel, who married the unfortunate duke of Clarence: she died in child-bed at Warwick in 1476. Edward Plantagenet, son of Clarence and Isabel, who was the last male heir of the house of York, was beheaded in the Tower of London by order of Henry VII. After his death Henry seized upon his inheritance, under a forced conveyance from his grandmother, the countess of Warwick and Salisbury. The lordship of Tewkesbury continued with the crown till 1547, when Edward VI. granted it to sir Thomas Seymour; on his attainder it again reverted to the crown. In 1609 James I. sold the manor and lordship to the corporation, with various privileges, for the sum of £2455 : 7 : 4½.

The Abbey of Tewkesbury was of great note in the time of king John, as appears from one of the seven copies of Magna Charta, and the Charter de Foresta, being deposited there, and its abbots being frequently summoned to parliament. The last abbot, John Wakeman, surrendered its possessions in 1539, and was made bishop

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Remains of the Cloisters Tewkesbury Abbey, Gloucestershire.

of Glocester. The revenues were stated at £1595 : 17 : 6 *per annum*, exclusive of £136 : 18 : 1, granted by the convent in fees and annuities; its plate was also of great value.

The Abbey church, which is nearly all that remains of this once extensive monastery, was purchased at the dissolution, and made parochial. This structure is an interesting specimen of the early Norman architecture, intermixed with beautiful displays of the style of later times. It is built in the cathedral form, and consists of a nave, choir, transepts, and a central tower, with the addition of several chapels. The nave and choir are separated from the aisles by eighteen massive columns, bearing the roof, and four piers, which support the tower. The arches over the columns in the nave and above the piers are semi-circular, those of the choir are pointed: above the former arches runs a triforium, opening into the nave by double round-headed arches.

The interior of this church is exceedingly grand, the heaviness of the nave being relieved by the more graceful architecture of the choir, which is singularly beautiful and impressive. The eastern end is hexagonal; it is separated from the aisles by six columns: beneath the pointed arches, springing from these columns, are several finely-ornamented monuments, and the windows above are enriched with painted glass. On the south side of the altar are three stone stalls, two only are visible, the third being obscured by some ornamental workmanship.

The ceiling of the choir is adorned with tracery, and at every intersection is a carved flower or a knot of foliage. Adjoining the aisles are six small private chapels, or oratories, containing the tombs of several persons of distinction, which are much cut and defaced. These dilapidations, according to report, were purposely made by the soldiers of Cromwell, who were occasionally quartered in the church. The chapel of Our Lady, which stood at the east end, is now entirely demolished; but the door of communication with the church is still visible on the outside. The length of the church is 300 feet, the transcepts 120 feet, the breadth of the choir and side aisles seventy feet, the west front 100 feet, the height from the area to the roof 120 feet, and the tower 152 feet.

The monuments within the church have attracted the attention and exercised the genius of many antiquaries. Mr. Lysons, in particular, has endeavoured to discriminate the persons intended to be commemorated by these monumental displays; as our limits will not permit us to enter upon the subject, we refer our readers to his Antiquities of Glocestershire.

On the tower of the church formerly stood a wooden spire, which fell on Easter Day 1559. The upper part of the tower contains three tiers of arcades; the arches of the middle tier are intersected. Some remains of the cloisters are still to be seen on the southern walls of the church; they consist of several highly-ornamented pointed arches, which being exposed to all the changes

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The Abbey Gate Tewkesbury Gloucestershire.

Published for the Proprietors by [illegible]

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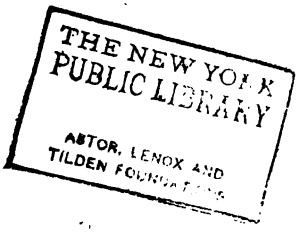
of the air, are in a very decayed and crumbling state. At the west end of the church is a grand circular receding arch, supported on each side by six long columns; this arch contains a handsome window of the Gothic kind. At a short distance westward stands the gate-house, and some other remains of the Abbey buildings; the former is embattled, and has large figures projecting from the middle of a cornice which is just below its battlements; on its west side is a stone staircase leading to the top of the gate; beneath the cornice is a niche, with a rich canopy between two square windows. This building appears to be the work of the fifteenth century.

A great and decisive battle was fought at Tewkesbury between Margaret, queen of Henry VI. and Edward IV. In this battle were engaged the remnants of the army who fought under the famous earl of Warwick at Barnet; for so great at this time was the rage of civil war, that after the most signal defeat, a leader of consequence was able, with astonishing rapidity, to levy and equip an army for the field. Thus the partisans of the house of Lancaster were again on a footing to support the claims of queen Margaret and her son. As they expected early succours from the Welch, Edward was resolved to attack them before their reinforcements arrived. The duke of Somerset, who commanded for the queen, sensible of his inferiority of numbers, made the utmost efforts to retire into Wales, in order to meet the earl of Pembroke, whom he

expected with troops. Arriving at Tewkesbury, with Edward at their heels, it was judged better to entrench themselves here than to pass the Severn, with the risk of losing the rear of their army: they had scarcely time to secure themselves before they were attacked by the king, and completely routed; the queen and her son were taken prisoners, as was the duke of Somerset, who was soon after beheaded. The queen was imprisoned in the Tower of London, and her son basely murdered. This battle was fought on the 4th of May, eighteen days after that of Barnet; it was the twelfth, though not the last, which was fought between the two houses.

The government of Tewkesbury is vested in two bailiffs and four justices, a recorder, twenty-four principal burgesses, and twenty-four assistants, from whom the bailiffs and justices are chosen. The privilege of returning members to parliament was obtained in 1609; the right of election is possessed by freemen and freeholders, which consist of about 500 of the inhabitants.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Engraved & Published May 1. 1811, by J. Greig, from a Drawing by H. Powell.

Stone Cross, Clearwell, Gloucestershire.

STONE CROSS AT CLEARWELL,

GLOCESTERSHIRE.

CLOWERWALL, anciently called Wellington, and afterwards Clear-Well, from the clear spring arising in this tithing, is a long, straggling village, situated six miles from Monmouth, and about twenty-one from Glocester. In going direct through the village the Cross particularly attracts the notice of travellers. The erect stone which crowns it was, till within a very few years, much higher, but was unfortunately broke by placing a large bough on the top, on the 1st of May. This Cross is elevated by five tiers of stone steps; it is of a square form, and has a slender pillar at each corner, unornamented, but elegant; between each pillar is a recess, having trefoil heads; above them formerly arose the shaft. But little notice is taken of this Cross in history; it is supposed to have been monumental.

The neighbourhood abounds in coal, iron, and is also famous for its quarry-stone. On the right is the entrance to the noble seat of C. Edwin, esq. (the top of which appears in the distance in the annexed View) a strong, well-built, and capacious mansion, and has much the appearance of a castle; it contained many pictures, the most valuable of which have been removed to Dun-

raven castle by Mr. Wyndham, the son of the above-named gentleman.

This house was built by the father of Mr. Edwin. It formerly belonged to the family of sir John Joyce, afterwards to the Grinders, then to the Baynhams, next to the Throgmortons, and has since descended to the very respectable family of the Wyndhams, in whose possession it still remains. The park was formerly well stocked with deer: the scenery around is very delightful, and truly picturesque.

Not far from Clearwell is Coleford, where traces of Claud Offa, or king Offa's dyke, are still visible. Coleford is a chapelry to Newland, which is a pleasant village, forming an irregular square round the church, and inhabited by many respectable families.

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THE TOMB OF JENKIN WYRHALE, IN NEWLAND CHURCHYARD,

GLOCESTERSHIRE.

THIS Tomb appears to have been erected by king Henry VI. as a mark of his approbation of the faithful services of Jenkin Wyrhale, who held a respectable office in the forest of Dean, to which he was first appointed by Henry IV. The inscription on the tomb points out his office, and at the same time well describes his character:

"Here lies Jenkin Wyrhale, chief forester in fee,
A braver fellow never lived, nor will there ever be."

He was buried by his own desire at Newland, although his residence was in the parish of Bicknor, where he built a seat called Bicknor Court, and where the family still resides. The ancient house has been taken down and a more modern edifice erected in its place.

Newland is a pleasing village, forming an irregular square round the church, and inhabited by many respectable families. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a spacious building, with a tower at the west end, neatly ornamented with pinnacles and open-work battlements. On the west side of the church is a grammar-school, founded in 1652 by Edward Bell, gent. with a house and

endowment for a master. Here is also an alm's-house, founded by the same gentleman, for eight poor people. The principal houses being detached and interspersed wich trees and gardens, gives this village an air of rural elegance but seldom seen. There are carried on at this place extensive iron and coal works, which give employment to several hundred persons. The inhabitants of this parish, as returned under the late act, amount to 2454, the number of houses to 522.

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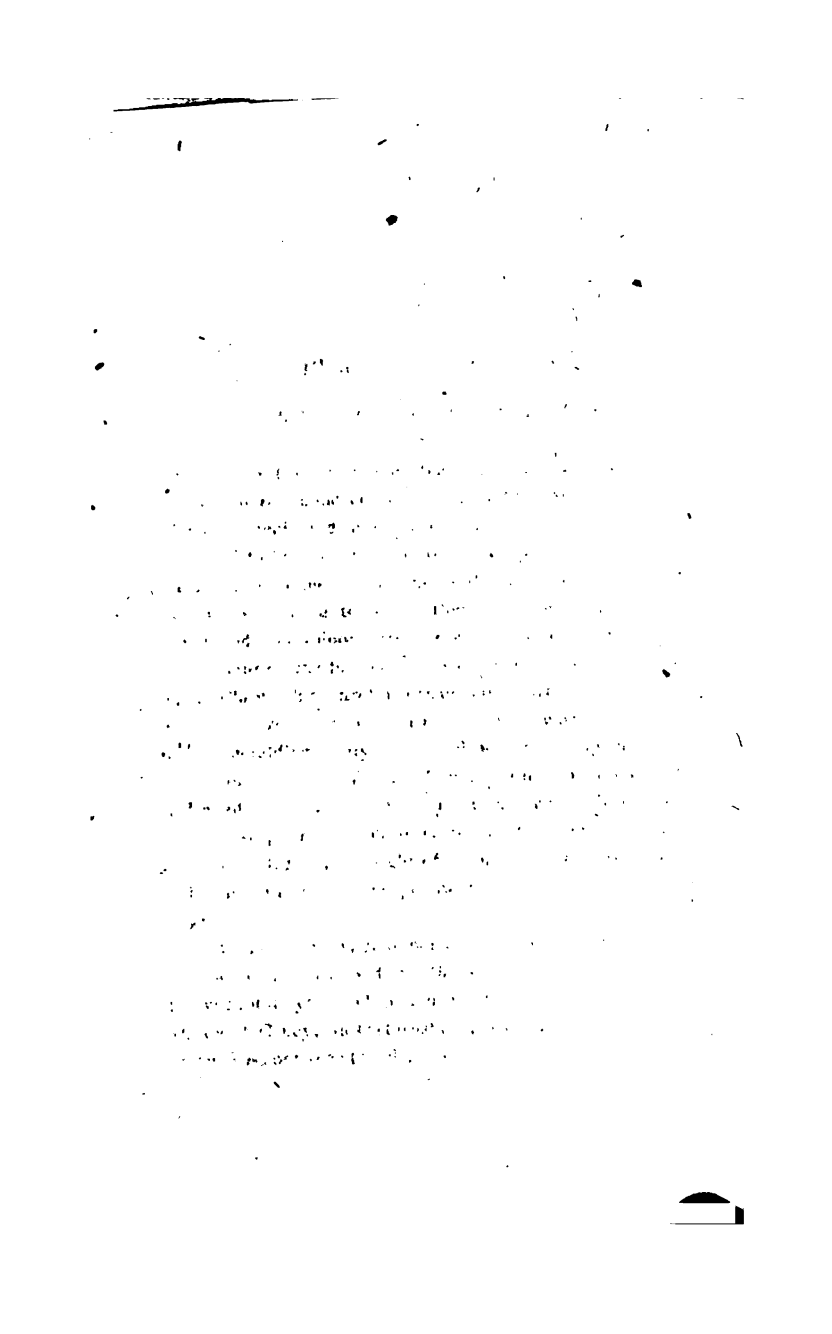
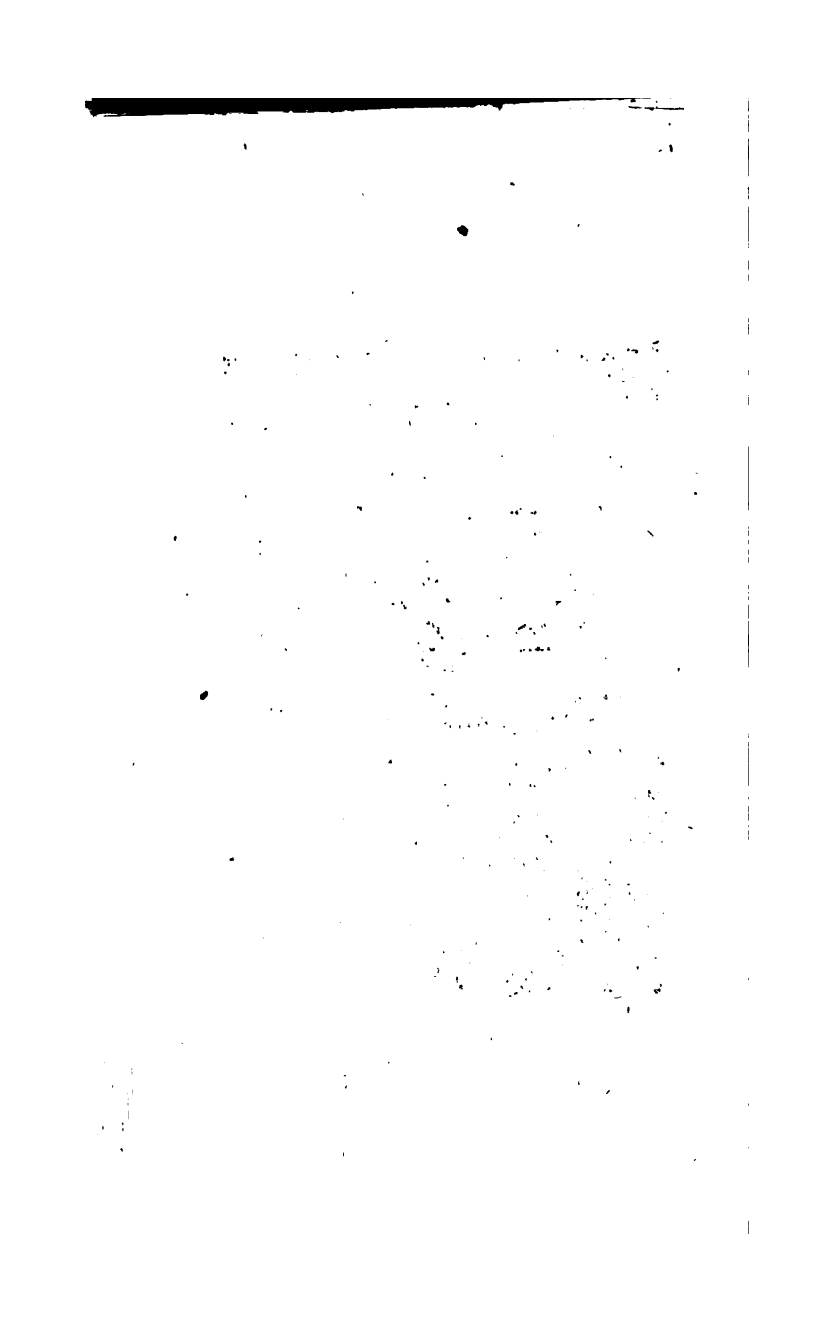
N. Door of Bibery Church, Gloucester.re





BIBURY CHURCH,

GLOCESTERSHIRE.

BIBURY is a small village, near the banks of the river Colne, in the hundred of Brightwell's Barrow. The Church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is a spacious edifice, supposed to have been built upon a former foundation by the monks of Osney. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower at the north-west angle; the north and south doors are in the style of early Norman architecture; the former is represented in the accompanying Plate. The arch is ornamented with two bands of zigzag, surrounded by a row of billet-work; it rests upon a moulding richly sculptured, which is supported by two columns, with ornamented caps; the door has a trefoil head. On the north wall was a large painting of St. Christopher, now entirely obliterated: according to a monkish legend, the sight of an image of this saint was sufficient to preserve the spectator from violent or sudden death.

Bibury formerly gave name to a hundred; the manor was anciently possessed by the see of Worcester; but between the years 1125 and 1150 it was given to the abbey of Osney, in Oxfordshire; after which a controversy arose between the churches of Worcester and Osney,

relative to its alienation; and reference was made to pope Alexander III. who deputed the bishop of Exeter to determine the dispute; when it was adjudged, "that the said church of Osney should hold and enjoy for ever the Church of Bibury, with its chapels and all its appurtenances, saving in all things the jurisdiction of the diocesan, paying therefore yearly in recompence 60*s*. to the church of Worcester, in the name of a canon, that the bishop should place there one canon at least twenty years old, and not infamous, who should follow the rule of the house, &c.; and lastly, that all and singular of the convent of Osney should offer up the same prayers for the bishop of Winchester as they did for their own founders and abbots."

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St. Briavel's Castle, Gloucestershire.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, Bond Street, Decembr. 1807.

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ST. BRIAVEL'S CASTLE,

GLOCESTERSHIRE.

THIS Castle has for its founder Milo Fitz-Walter, earl of Hereford, who, in the reign of Henry VI. found it necessary to check the incursions of the Welsh, and to secure his ample possessions in this neighbourhood, by the erection of this fortress. In his family it continued about a century, when it reverted to the crown by forfeiture: its constables have, ever since that period, been appointed by the king, and hold their situations during royal pleasure.

The site of the Castle is surrounded by a moat, and comprehends an extent of nearly 500 yards. The north-west front, which is nearly all that has escaped the ravages of time, consists of two circular towers, three stories high, separated by a gateway, having an elliptical arch; there is a small bridge thrown across the moat, over which the Castle is entered. Within the above-mentioned towers are several hexagonal apartments, whose walls are eight feet thick; one of these rooms is now used as a prison. In the interior of the Castle are two gateways, still nearly entire, of similar dimensions to that by which these ruins are entered. On the right of the entrance are the remnants of a large

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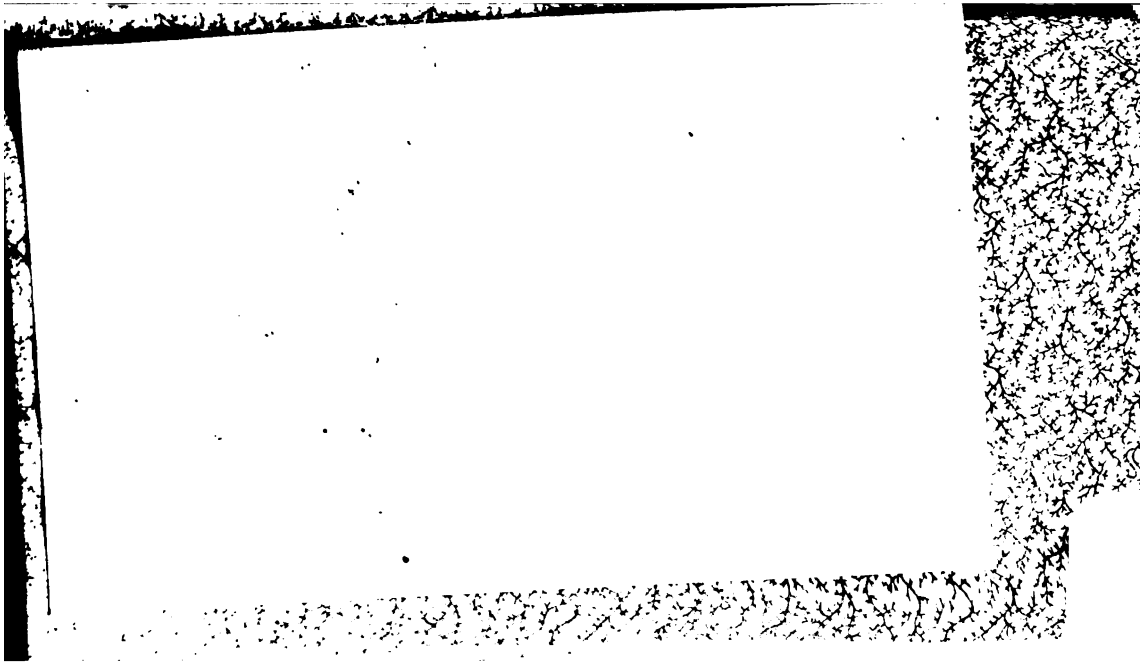
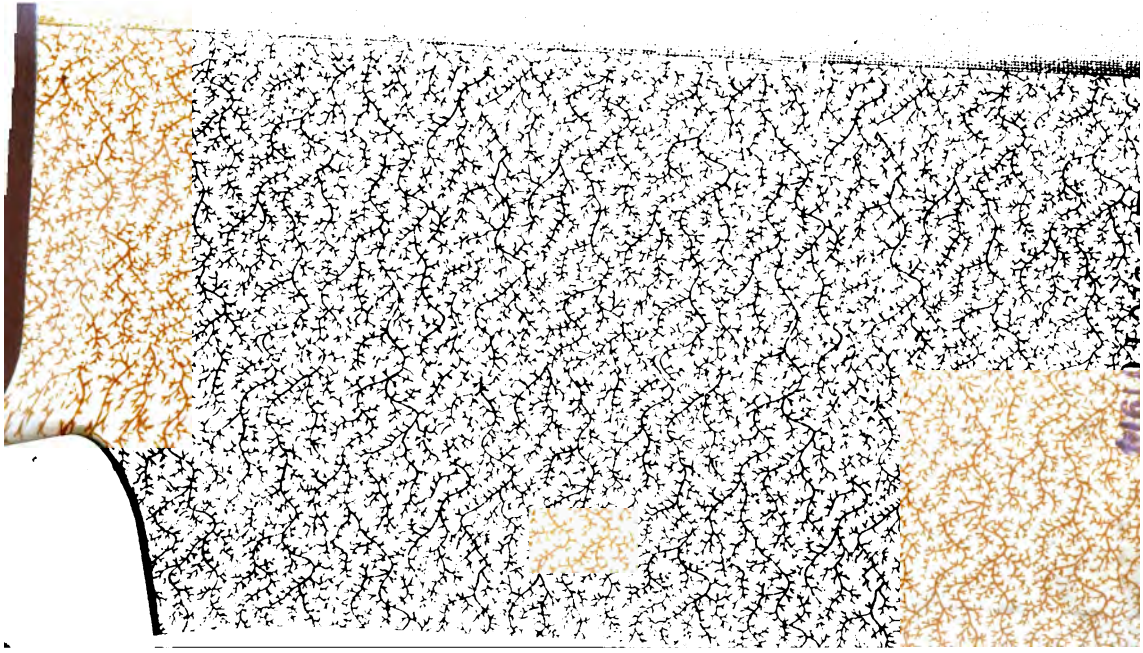
apartment, with pointed windows; and on the left, vestiges of a once magnificent hall.

Near the centre of the site of this Castle is a low building, which serves as an anti-chamber to the room in which the officers of the hundred, that St. Briavel's is situated in, assemble to hold their courts. This room appears from the date MDLXVII on one of the beams, to have been fitted up about that time. On the highest rampart once stood the keep, which consisted of a large square tower above 100 feet in height, flanked by two smaller towers, about half that height, with walls of great thickness. Of this portion of the Castle the greater part fell down in the year 1754, and the remainder twenty years afterwards: large masses of the ruins of the keep yet remain on the spot, adhering together by the strength of the cement. The eye of the traveller dwells with the sweetest complacency upon the beautiful and romantic scenery that surrounds these venerable ruins, the prospects from which are uncommonly extensive, and in the highest degree gratifying.

"—— Wide around
Hillock and valley, farm and village, smile;
And ruddy roofs and chimney tops appear
————up wafting to the clouds
The incense of thanksgiving."

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